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IMPACT OF DRUGS ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

JOINT HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

AND THE

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF DRUGS ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

NOVEMBER 9, 1989

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IMPACT OF DRUGS ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES, AND
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC.

The committees met, pursuant to notice, at 10:08 a.m., in room SD-430, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Senator Edward M. Kennedy (chairman of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources) presiding.

Present: Senators Kennedy, Biden, Simon, Dodd, Mikulski, Hatch, Thurmond, Cochran, and Coats.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN KENNEDY

Chairman KENNEDY. We will come to order. We welcome the opportunity to have a joint hearing with the Labor and Human Resources Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee because the battle in the war on drugs involves not only interdiction and law enforcement, but rehabilitation, education and research. And to a great extent, the way we are able to bring the effort together is determinative of whether we are going to be successful or not.

On the Labor and Human Resources Committee—and many of us have the opportunity as well to serve on the Judiciary Committee, we are working together in a range of different efforts. In this manner, we can make a more solid contribution in terms of the response of the Senate and the Congress to the families of America on this issue.

Our hearing today focuses on the most tragic consequences of the drug epidemic—its devastating impact on children and families. The evidence of that devastation is everywhere, and it begins before birth. According to one expert, as many as 375,000 babies could be born this year to mothers who used illegal drugs during their pregnancies, and the human suffering and the long-term costs to society are astronomical.

Infants whose mothers have abused drugs have a high rate of prematurity and seizures, and are at risk for congenital malformations and strokes. Permanent learning disabilities are beginning to be identified as these children reach school age. In particularly tragic cases, drug-addicted mothers deliver a baby and then abandon the infant in the hospital and never return.

Treatment for expectant mothers is often effective, but it is rarely available. Worthwhile programs at the Family Center in

Philadelphia and Northwestern Hospital in Chicago have shown impressive results. The desire to protect an unborn child is a powerful incentive for many pregnant women to end their addiction, but in most cases there are no treatment options available. A recent survey of metropolitan hospitals serving the poor reported that 83 percent did not even have a place to refer drug-addicted pregnant women for treatment.

Another symptom of the drug epidemic is the tidal wave of child abuse and neglect that is swamping service agencies across the country. Reported cases of child abuse have tripled in the last decade, to 2.3 million in 1988. In New York City, reports of child abuse and neglect by parents involved with drugs tripled in just 2 years to more than 8,500 cases. Throughout the Nation, drug abuse is implicated in as much as 80 percent of child abuse.

The crack epidemic has added an ominous new dimension to this frustrating problem because of the nature of the drug and the suddenness with which violence can occur. Social workers investigate a case and find no sign of abuse one day; the next day, a child is dead.

Because of the random, unpredictable violence that drugs bring to many neighborhoods, social workers refuse to investigate child abuse and neglect cases in some areas without armed guards.

The child protective service network was over-strained before the drug epidemic arrived. Today, it is falling apart. In general, agencies are supposed to provide the services necessary to stop child abuse and prevent the break-up of the family. If that fails, children are supposed to be removed from their homes. Today, neither element of that response is adequate.

The inaccessibility of drug treatment means that other support services, even where available, have only limited effect. Overwhelmingly caseloads make it difficult to identify child abuse in time. Even where cases of abuse are detected, support services are often inadequate and foster care is not always available.

Between 1981 and 1988, the number of children entering the foster care system in Los Angeles as a result of parental drug abuse increased eleven-fold. In California as a whole, the number of children entering the foster care system increased 2½ times faster than the number of foster care homes between 1986 and 1988.

Not all cases of drug abuse result in child abuse, but families can still be devastated. Bread-winners lose their jobs, children drop out of school, AIDS infections mount, homes are poisoned by the psychological damage of drug abuse, and family members are arrested.

The consequences are not limited to the family. Neighborhoods are being destroyed by crime and drugs. Innocent bystanders are killed by stray bullets from warring drug dealers. Children in drug-infested neighborhoods are assaulted every day by the sights and sounds of the drug epidemic. Violence, prostitution, and murder are everyday events in the environment of too many American children, and for many inner-city children the role model for success has become the neighborhood drug dealer.

There are answers to this threat, and we must do more to make them available. Prevention and treatment opportunities need to be expanded, especially to pregnant women. Child abuse services de-

serve additional resources. Local law enforcement must be strengthened. We have taken modest steps so far, but they are not enough to keep us from being overwhelmed by the problem.

Our witnesses today will testify about the problems we face and provide recommendations for more effective action, and we look forward to the testimony.

Chairman Biden.

Opening Statement of Chairman Biden

Chairman Biden. Thank you. I am happy to be here today, particularly with Senator Kennedy's committee, and I want to state at the outset that one of the reasons we are moving on this subject, the impact of the drug epidemic on our children, is that most of us in the Congress are only catching up to what Senator Kennedy has been talking about for the better part of the last decade.

And, unfortunately, if we had maybe moved at a time when he was making the case that we should be doing much more, we would be much further ahead than we are now. But we haven't, but that is no excuse for us not to move now.

So I am particularly happy to be here with Senator Kennedy and holding this joint hearing between the Judiciary and Labor and Human Resource Committees.

As has been stated, our topic today is the No. 1 threat to our Nation's continued greatness, and that is the impact of drugs and the impact they are having upon our children.

There are neighborhoods in our country, as our first witness, Dave Stewart, and others will tell you—neighborhoods in our country where more children take crack than finish high school. And there are housing projects where more parents tonight will be cooking cocaine than will be cooking dinner for their children. And there are schools in this country where the phrase "the iceman cometh" refers to the arrival of a methamphetamine distributor and not a work of literature.

We all know that such grim realities exist in our inner cities, in our neighborhoods, but they are not alone. America's rural and suburban children are also victims of the drug problem, and it is having an increasingly dire impact on them.

Parents who have looked into the faces of a handsome son or a beautiful daughter only to see the horrifying gaze of a crack addict is becoming a reality not merely in the inner city, but in suburban America as well.

Perhaps no aspect of this crisis is more heart-wrenching than the fate of the thousands of babies being born with cocaine in their system, and many of these addicted newborns are abandoned in hospitals, never knowing the touch of a parent, and others are born suffering from the dreaded AIDS disease.

Some have been left by their parents on the streets, condemned to die, and how can we begin to catalog the impact of drugs upon this segment of our society and those yet to be born?

As victims of drug use, our children are having their minds ruined and their bodies destroyed, and as victims of others who use drugs, our children are devastated by the new epidemics of physical abuse and gang violence.

A generation of Americans, the next generation of doctors and teachers and lawyers and newspersons and factory workers, literally the economic base of America, and our future political leaders, are being lost in some sections of our country.

As I have said before, we have to face the fact that our consciences alone cannot do the job to battle this crisis. Drug use among our young is tugging not just at our heart strings, but also upon our purse strings, and upon the kite strings that draw our National ambitions aloft.

Today, we will be hearing about many aspects of the drug problem as it affects our children, and we have with us some of those who have a much more enlightened view than many of us in society, and many of those who have been directly involved on their own initiative in attempting to do something about the problem.

First, we will hear from an outstanding athlete, Mr. Dave Stewart, who has been doing an outstanding job to help the young people living around the temptations of gangs and drugs and crime. Dave Stewart, whom most of us know as the Most Valuable Player in the 1989 World Series, is better known to the Oakland community as a most valuable person.

We also have a distinguished panel of witnesses who have firsthand knowledge of the impact of drugs and the impact they are having on our children. Dr. Reed Tuckson is the Public Health Commissioner for the District of Columbia, who leads the crusade for better drug abuse programs that are threatening the women and children of this hard-hit city.

Ms. Johnnie May Lewis is a heroic woman. As we will hear today, she is raising four grandchildren whose parents' addiction to crack has made them unable to care for their very own sons and daughters.

And Mr. Mike Duran is a veteran of the Los Angeles County Probation Department for the last 10 years and has run the department's anti-gang efforts. Mr. Robert Vaughn is now a student at the University of Kansas, but for most of his youth he has been a gang member, and I am anxious to hear him and to learn from him about how he was able to climb from membership in a youth gang to membership on the University of Kansas football team.

I wish to thank all of you who are here today to testify, and I hope you can share with us some of your insights into how we can begin to deal with ending this epidemic.

And as I indicated earlier and as I said to Mr. Stewart in the ante room, his involvement in this effort probably does more in one day than much of what we do over a month or longer because of what a role model he is. That is an incredible burden to thrust upon the successful athletes and movie stars and public figures of this country, but it is one that Mr. Stewart has stepped up to in a way that few have, and we are delighted to have you here, Mr. Stewart.

And I thank you, Chairman Kennedy, for allowing me to make that opening statement.

Chairman KENNEDY. Thank you very much.

We will now receive a statement of Senator Dodd for the record.

[The prepared statement of Senator Dodd follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR DODD

Senator DODD. I want to express my appreciation to both Senator Kennedy and Senator Biden for holding this joint hearing to explore the social impacts of drug abuse. I have long been concerned about the devastation that drug abuse brings to children and families and plan to further examine the implications of this problem in the next session. Poor families are particularly hard hit, as their neighborhoods disintegrate into places of violence and fear.

We, too, should feel fear and anger at what is happening to the vulnerable children growing up in this environment. They are vulnerable because poor children often live in families headed by women. And women seem particularly attracted to highly addictive crack cocaine. Many children experience physical, emotional, and psychological damage because of their parents' drug use, damage that sometimes begins before birth. Often these children are invisible to us—that is, until they come to school dirty and hungry or to the emergency room bloody and bruised.

You don't even have to live with a substance abuser to be caught up in the fear that permeates some neighborhoods. Last month, I held a hearing at which several homeless children told me how scary it was to live in a shelter because of all the drugs and fighting and death. Just this week, the *Washington Post* described a young girl whose mother boarded up her window so she would not be hit by stray bullets as she sat at her desk reading.

These children present an alarming picture of a lost generation. Psychologists tell me that children of substance abusers become emotionally blunted, callous at a very young age. Emotionally, if not physically, abandoned by their parents, some children find in youth gangs a sense of belonging and power. They become involved in the drug trade at alarmingly young ages to supply their basic economic needs when their parents can't.

Abused and neglected children of substance abusers are straining our child protective services and foster care agencies. In my own State of Connecticut, two-thirds of the most serious abuse and neglect cases are substance abuse related. The lack of drug treatment for the parents often leaves foster children in limbo. how can a judge terminate the rights of a parent who cannot get the help she needs? But how can that judge send the child home? Where treatment is available, the patient's motivation is key to success. How long should a child welfare agency wait for a parent to overcome her addiction before saying "Enough! This child needs a permanent home"? These are wrenching dilemmas for child welfare workers, judges, and for us all.

The current wave of substance abuse has profound implications for the way we approach services to families and children. It is not a new problem—though the advent of crack amidst deepening poverty makes it more severe for children—and it won't be solved overnight. The drug legislation recently passed by the Senate and now being considered in the House will help, but it is only a first step. Many questions remain. For example, how can we reach out to families earlier so that these invisible children don't become visible in the most tragic ways? How can we offer better alternatives to youth who look to dealing drugs and joining a gang for eco-

nomic and emotional sustenance? And how can we make it safe for that little girl in Southeast DC to sit at her desk and read? I hope this hearing will explore some of these questions, and I look forward to hearing the testimony of the witnesses who have come here today.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Thurmond.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR THURMOND

Senator THURMOND. Chairman Kennedy, today we are here to consider testimony regarding the impact of drug abuse on children and families. Specifically, this hearing will focus on the role drug abuse plays in juvenile delinquency, poverty, and broken homes. The witnesses for this hearing include representatives from local government, affected families, and professional sports.

Without question, we are in the midst of a drug epidemic. Nightly newscasts are full of scenes of law enforcement officials making raids on inner-city and suburban crack houses. Children are purchasing and selling drugs. Babies are being born to children who are addicted to crack. No community is safe from the effects of drug abuse. Sadly, drug abuse is rampant in our society.

The scourge of the drug epidemic has its grip on the throat of our Nation. It threatens to strangle the life out of all its victims, the most disturbing of which are our children and our families. According to the Department of Justice, 17 percent of America's high school students have used cocaine, and 50 percent have used marijuana.

The problem of drug abuse among our young people is compounded when one sees how widespread the problem is among the rest of our Nation. According to the Department of Justice, over 22 million Americans have tried cocaine, and there are between 2 and 3 million cocaine addicts in the United States today. In addition, it is estimated that there are as many as 750,000 heroin addicts.

These statistics reflect that drug abuse impacts on every community, leaving no family insulated from its effects. Moreover, they reflect the need for a strong National effort to halt the spread of drug abuse.

I believe that every effort must be made to ensure that our children never use drugs. Failure to do so will only lead to more broken homes, poverty, and violent crime. Congress recognized the need to stem the spread of drug abuse when it created the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Under the direction of Drug Czar William Bennett, the office has provided the Bush administration and the Nation with a comprehensive strategy for action. Included in that strategy are short and long-term goals for drug abuse reduction. I have pledged strong support to the President and to William Bennett to see that this strategy is effectively implemented.

Despite the efforts of the Federal Government, it is clear that government cannot win the war against drugs alone. The drug war cannot be won unless the public at large realizes the impact drugs have on every aspect of society and commits to providing the needed assistance.

The witnesses we will hear from today will testify about the impact drug abuse has on all aspects of the family and a young person's life. For example, we will hear how drugs push our Nation's inner-city children into gangs. Today's witnesses have made a personal commitment to limit the number of future victims of drug abuse. The testimony they will provide should prove beneficial to both the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

In closing, I know the fight to save our Nation's families and our inner-city children from the evils of drug abuse will not be easy. Yet, one just has to witness the pain, poverty, waste of life, and suffering drugs cause so many people to know that we cannot give up. The drug problem we face only strengthens my resolve to increase our efforts to win this war. Although the continuing battle will not be easy, we must be relentless.

I want to say I am very pleased to see Dave Stewart here today. He is a great hero in the sports field. The Members of the Committees appreciate your being here, and I want to say to the sports people that so many young people wish to emulate you, what you do, and how you live. The very fact that you are taking a strong stand against drugs is going to be very helpful to the Nation at large, and I commend you.

Chairman Kennedy, I have another committee meeting, therefore, I will not be able to stay long. However, I intend to read this testimony with interest. Thank you very much.

Chairman KENNEDY. Thank you very much.

If there is anyone that feels compelled to make a brief comment, we will recognize them.

Senator MIKULSKI. A very brief comment. Hi, Mr. Stewart. I am Senator Mikulski. I am from Maryland—the Baltimore Orioles.

Chairman KENNEDY. That is the kind of brief comment we like. [Laughter.]

Senator MIKULSKI. On behalf of the State of Maryland and the Orioles, we want to welcome you in this friendly, noncompetitive situation. I hope sometime to be cheering my team on, but I just want to give you a very warm welcome and thank you for what you are doing.

And I know as we listen to your work, you are the kind of guy who is out there really saying yes to the kids who say no. You are saying yes to the kids who really want to do the right thing, to go to school, to move on up in their life. And we understand that you have done it through your own hard work, through your own sweat equity, but also that you had good people along the way, both teachers and volunteers—your little league coach, the Boys Club that you went to.

And this committee has a strong interest in National service, so while they are talking about big-buck programs, we are also interested in what you are doing as volunteers. And, again, this is an Oriole fan who gives you a salute.

Senator SIMON. Chairman Kennedy, if I can just add one word, and I shall be very brief, and I join my colleagues in welcoming Mr. Stewart. We are very pleased to have you, as well as Robert Vaughn and Jeff Scull.

One of the things that happened right in this room 2 weeks ago was a report from the Director of the National Institute of Drug Abuse in which he stated that higher than any ethnic group in terms of use, higher than any age group in terms of use of drugs is one group, the unemployed. The problems that we are dealing with are interrelated, and I am pleased with the witnesses we have here today. We are going to face a variety of problems as we attempt to solve the drug problem in our society.

Chairman KENNEDY. Mr. Stewart.

STATEMENT OF DAVE STEWART, PITCHER, OAKLAND ATHLETICS, AND FOUNDER, KIDSCORPS, OAKLAND, CA

Mr. STEWART. First of all, I would like to say, being from Oakland and not being aware of how great an interest there is in the problems with drugs and broken families and crime, I am very pleased to see that here in the Senate that there is an interest in finding a solution.

I can't say that I have a solution. I can only tell you about my personal experiences; why I have come up with KIDSCORPS, which is my corporation for kids; what my dreams have been since I was younger and how I plan to make them work.

I shared a dream with a young friend of mine of 4 years old that I still relate to on a day-to-day basis about what I would like to see happen in my city, Oakland, California. Oakland has not been the best of cities when it came to anything except putting out good athletes. We are a city that has great pride in putting out great athletes in the professional sports field, but we have had problems in other areas such as drugs and gang wars and broken families.

So for me, the thing that I found to work when I was growing up—I have always had activities. I have been a part of the Oakland Boys Club since I was 12 years old in a work capacity as well as going to the Boys Club to play or learn, or what have you. I felt that recreation was an outlet.

And becoming a professional athlete and being able to put myself in a position to help not just with time, but as well with money, I felt it was the thing to do. I have always been as a child, as my mom said, a borderline between good, a borderline between bad, but I have had good upbringing, and that is the strong suit as far as I am concerned.

I have always known what was right and what was wrong. Through my baseball coaches, through the people at Parks and Recreation, through my mom, my dad, my five sisters and my brother, I have always had good direction

So KIDSCORPS—I brought brochures if you would like to know what the plan is, what we are about—is a program that I have developed for youth development. I find that idle time is time that kids spend contemplating what they should or what they shouldn't do, and kids, which I think I know quite a bit about because I have two of my own, for one, and because I have been around kids all my life, aren't always to make decisions for themselves.

Sometimes, you have stronger personalities, which creates peer pressure, and in peer pressure you tend to go with the group. So I find that when you leave them other alternatives, when you give

them something positive to look for, when you work on self-esteem, when you work on knowledge of what is going on around you, it builds strength for the weak, and peer pressure is definitely something that the weak have a tendency to indulge in.

Oakland is a very, very strong drug area. I do a lot of work with the Oakland Boys Club. I am on the board of directors for the Oakland Boys Club, and one specific club, which is the Meltzer Boys Club, which is on 24th and Market—I would guarantee you, for every block within a mile radius, you would have someone that is standing on the street corner willing to distribute drugs to young people on the corner of 24th and Market, which is the actual corner that the Boys Club is on. There are drug dealers.

And in talks with the Oakland Police Department, there just isn't enough manpower to walk police through areas and babysit. So my solution, as I said, is KIDSCORPS. KIDSCORPS works with major corporations—General Foods, Barnum and Bailey, Polaroid, corporations of that nature. They have joined in through donation, through time, and we put together programs during the summer months, work programs.

We are trying to give kids drug awareness. We have formed a track club. We have a dance club, tutorial services for kids who are suffering in school, who aren't able to pick up things quite as easy. We are making a mentor program where we can send kids to actual worksites and have them go there once a week and actually see what a work situation is like.

You ask a kid what does he want to do, what does he want to be in his life, and if he can tell you he wants to be a doctor or a lawyer or a nurse, we can take that child, bring him to a lawyer's office and have him actually be there for two or three hours after school and see what a lawyer and a doctor actually do during the course of their day.

These are things that I think can help the solution of drug problems and being involved in gangs. You have to give an alternative, a good alternative, something positive for every negative.

I work from my personal experience that there are a lot of negatives in this world, and the only way to fight a negative is to give as many positives as you have negatives. Me being in my community, people relate to the fact that I am from Oakland, from the heart of where things take place, from the heart of where the problem begins, and I have been able to come out and it hasn't been easy. It has been hard work.

My story is told time and time again in my area of where I came from, what I had to do, my down sides in baseball and my up sides, and it shines, and kids see that. I make myself accessible to them; I am there. It is not just a name thing; it is getting out there and playing softball with them or playing baseball with them. I have 6 softball teams, 2 soccer teams, 1 basketball team. These are things that I am involved in.

I believe that recreation is something that kids need, and the Oakland area is suffering from more recreation. Working with the Oakland A's—they also have a community affairs program and they work strongly with me in things that I do. We are building up the baseball fields in the area again with Lucky Stores, and so we are doing things to make the area better.

My solution to drug problems is recreation, keeping an idle mind busy, giving them other alternatives, showing them something positive for every negative, allowing them a chance to breathe. If you give them a chance to breathe, then they can think, and when they can think, then the right decision becomes easier, showing them that the easy way is not being out with the drug dealer and being his workman and bringing the money to him, but allowing him a chance to make money on his own the right way, the proper way, and receiving recognition, which you do, working on self-esteem because self-esteem is low when you come from a family with just your mom and your dad elsewhere, or your dad there and your mom elsewhere, working on those things. I spend a lot of time in the schools talking about self-esteem and being the person that you can be.

If there is a solution, those are the things that I would look forward to and work on, and those are things that I am trying to accomplish with KIDSCORPS.

Thank you very much for your time.

Chairman KENNEDY. It is a very powerful message that you give, and one that I think not only the youth in Oakland ought to hear, but Members of Congress and the Senate ought to hear as well.

What is your sense of the reaction with the youths whose lives you have touched? Do you see a difference in those youths in the way that they begin to alter and perhaps change their behavior or values or conduct? Could you tell us a little bit about what you have perceived to be the different behavior patterns in those youths once they are able to involve themselves in the activities which you have just outlined?

Mr. STEWART. Well, I think kids have a sense of sincerity in whatever it is that you do. First of all, in the programs that I bring to kids, if they see you there once and then they never see you again, then sometimes your reaction will be not quite what you want it to be.

But I am a strong believer in anything that I start; then I want to be there to finish it. It might not be from the first day to the last day, but I will be around where kids can say, well, hey, Dave Stewart was here, and that is a drawing point.

Our track club is something that is becoming pretty popular in the area because they travel; they get a chance to go to other places. They went to the Bahamas. They were in Los Angeles and competed in Los Angeles, and they go around the country. The softball teams and the baseball teams are pretty positive because I get a chance to go out and—anything, I feel, where kids can see that you are sincere about what you are doing and they have a chance to actually say that they met the guy and he was there and he is not just here today, we can probably expect to see him a week later or 2 weeks later, your reaction is positive.

And we have good people that are overlooking each and every project. The coaches are sincere about the kids and they do group functions. They have team parties and they have movie days and things that they do with the kids, and I believe that the reaction is very positive.

Chairman KENNEDY. Just one other question. Do the law enforcement people know about your activities? How do they react or interreact?

Mr. STEWART. Well, I do a lot of work with the Oakland Police Department, and the things I do with the police department are around Thanksgiving time, which is coming up, and we have a Christmas program. Their Christmas program is for underprivileged youths, as well as their Thanksgiving programs.

They do not work personally with me in KIDSCORPS, but it is not that they wouldn't. It is just that I have never even thought to ask, to be honest, but I work with them in different programs that they produce and put on.

Chairman KENNEDY. How do the youths themselves react to the police in your community? What is the nature of the relationship that the youths have with law enforcement?

Mr. STEWART. Well, we have what we call an age group. From 13 and older, kids see police as enforcement, and they respect enforcement, but there is a fear of police. Kids, I would say, 12 and younger see police officers as friends, and they go up to police and they talk to police and they associate well with police. It depends on what age group you are in.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Hatch.

Senator HATCH. Thank you, Senator Kennedy. I want to thank you for holding this hearing. And, Mr. Stewart, I want to thank you for being here. We all recognize your achievements as a baseball player just without peer, and I am happy to have people be able to see your achievements outside of the field of baseball where you are helping a lot of young people.

So I want to compliment you for your efforts and your work in the Oakland community, and with this hearing, your effort is going to be known all over the country.

Professional athletes, in my view, can be very important role models for the youth of today, and I am real happy that you are a good one.

Now, Chairman Kennedy provided us with a copy of an article about you and, of course, your community experiences heading KIDSCORPS. And in the article, the writer describes the importance of the Boys Club and sports to you and how it helped you to stay out of trouble.

Do you have any suggestions for reaching our youth that may not be skilled or even interested in sports?

Mr. STEWART. That may not be skilled or interested in sports? Well, there are other areas. Like I said, KIDSCORPS is an area that doesn't just focus on sports. You know, kids have a right to do whatever they want. KIDSCORPS is a go-between. I believe we have access to anything that kids could want to do, and we can find direction for the areas that they are interested in.

Senator HATCH. That is great. We are frequently told by experts who come before this committee and, I might add, before the Judiciary Committee that is presided over by Senator Biden, who is also here, that one of the reasons for our youth getting involved in drugs is low self-esteem.

Do you have any suggestions on how we can help our youth to improve their own concepts of self-worth or self-image or self-esteem?

Mr. STEWART. Well, whatever your field may be, whatever your likes or your dislikes are, I believe self-esteem comes from being beat on, is the word I like to use—just steady, just being beat on. You will always have something in the back of your mind. No matter how much positive enforcement you give a kid, there will always be something way back there that is going to be there from just that steady beating.

But when you put a kid into something that he can take a part in and be active in, first you have to find out what their likes are, and then when you find out what their likes are, you find out how well they do in exactly whatever it is that they like and make them a leader of that group.

And you pet them for every good thing that they do. You bring them along slowly. Even if there is something that they are not really motivated in, you can get them involved by telling them, hey, you did a good job doing whatever; say, it is arts and crafts. We have reading programs. Say, they are involved in a reading program; get involved in a reading program and they do well in that.

You have to push them and make them believe that what they are doing is good, and that what they are doing makes a difference. You have to give them a sense of responsibility, and once they feel a sense of responsibility, I would say nine times out of ten a kid will take off and he will be just fine.

Senator HATCH. That is tremendous; give them that sense of responsibility, positive reinforcement, and let them know that you think they are doing good.

Well, I want to just say to you that I personally admire you and I personally appreciate the example you are setting for the youth in your community, and really throughout the country. Athletes are very, very important, and when we have people like you who do set good examples, it really makes a difference.

I remember when I was a kid growing up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and playing high school basketball, I was 16 and a big, raw-boned rookie from Idaho came back to the Pittsburgh Pirates. He was a great pitcher, became a great pitcher, named Vernon Law. And he became, and still is, one of my dearest and closest friends, and was an example to me, and, as you are, to millions of kids all over the place who watched him pitch baseball. He became the Cy Young Award winner in 1960, and you have been the Most Valuable Player in this World Series and you have been a 20-game winner for 3 years in a row. It is just almost unbelievable what you have been able to do.

And so I have to tell you that Vernon Law made a difference in my life, and you are making a difference in many other lives as well and it is worthwhile. And I just want to compliment you for it and welcome you to the committee and tell you how much we appreciate you.

Mr. STEWART. Thank you.

Senator HATCH. Chairman Kennedy, I have a statement I would like to put in the record.

Chairman KENNEDY. It will be placed in the record.
[The prepared statement of Senator Hatch follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR HATCH

Senator HATCH. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that you and the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee scheduled this joint committee hearing today on the impact of drugs on our families and children. Since the President presented his strategy to the American people, we have had a number of hearings in the Labor and Human Resources and Judiciary Committees. I have found that these hearings confirm one important point—we must fight drug abuse without partisan wrangling.

Drug abuse has no borders. It is pervasive in our schools, in our workplaces, and in our communities. And, the subject of today's hearing strikes at the very heart of the problem: Drugs and their impact on our families and children.

We need to continue to focus our attention on the broad societal problems of alcohol and drug abuse. We know about the impact of alcohol and drugs on the fetus. We are beginning to better understand the cost of fetal alcohol syndrome to our Nation. We are beginning to see the horror of children born addicted to cocaine, the impact on their very fragile nervous systems, and the stories of the long-term impact on their learning abilities. Mr. Chairman, we are just seeing the tip of the iceberg on this issue.

But, we can do more. Families need to support school and community programs that strengthen the ability of children to say no to drug and alcohol use. And, perhaps most important, families need to help their children fight the temptation of the streets to make a quick buck selling drugs. The Utah State University's cooperative Extension Service and the Cottage Program International, through a program called Families In Focus, are providing services to high risk youth and their families in Utah and other States. In Utah alone, this program has reached over 3,500 high-risk youth and their families through over a 1,500 trained volunteers. They are helping to keep families together, to keep family members off drugs, and to control the rampant use of drugs in our communities.

Mr. Chairman, families are the foundation of our culture. The breakdown of the family has been blamed for many of society's problems. But, I have faith and confidence that where family structure has broken down, it can be rebuilt; and, when families are unable to cope, we will see people coming forward to help.

I look forward to hearing from our distinguished witnesses today.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Mikulski.

Senator MIKULSKI. Yes. Mr. Stewart, first of all, I think when we talk about the recreation work that you do, recreation builds a lot of things. First of all, I think it makes the kids feel good, and feeling good makes them want to do good. They feel good physically because they are out there, as you said, working hard. They feel competent because of the skill that they acquire in sports.

They also feel like they belong. Don't they feel like they belong to somebody and some place by being on your team? Doesn't the sports and the recreation give them a little home away from home

and a sense of belonging and positive peer pressure? Is that what you think sports does?

Mr. STEWART. I think I relate to well to sports not just because I play, but because it is dealing with a team, it is dealing with personalities, it is dealing with other human beings, and that is living. A lot of people don't see baseball as a direct parallel to life. To me, baseball is life.

You have ups and downs in baseball that you go through in life, and you learn to deal with them. You find solutions to problems. Sometimes your solutions can contribute to your team being the best, and that is the same in life. When you make the right decision over your family, your family succeeds and it survives.

Baseball is closer to life than anything I can think of, and like I said, not just because I play, but because that is a reality. This is a team thing. When you walk down the street, you have to relate to all different types of people on different levels, and in baseball you do the same. You have to make snap decisions and you hope it is the right decision. In baseball, it is the same.

You are going to have to deal with anger properly. You do that in life, and the reason why I picked sports and the reason why a lot of the things that I am involved in relate pretty much directly to sports is because it is a team game and you are dealing with personalities of all different kinds, and that is what life is about.

Senator MIKULSKI. Well, I think that is excellent, and we are holding hearings now on work force, getting people ready. And they come in, big corporations, saying the new worker needs to know how to work in a team, and they continually talk about how the worker needs to work in a team.

But, Mr. Stewart, I have a question. As we talk about sports, usually one thinks of sports and boys. Do your programs involve girls, and how do you involve girls in KIDSCORPS?

Mr. STEWART. We have co-ed. Nowadays, the baseball teams that I have, they range from ages 7 through 16, and nowadays, at least in our area—I don't know about here, but I believe it is becoming a trend all over—girls are involved in baseball and we have girls on my baseball teams. My soccer teams involve girls. I have a girls soccer ball team and I have boys' soccer teams.

The track club is majority girls. I think we have maybe 4 guys on our track team and we have about 12 or 13 girls. And the Boys Club is no longer Boys Club; it is Boys and Girls Club. So all my programs involve girls.

Senator MIKULSKI. And how do they do?

Mr. STEWART. The girls excel better than the boys. They are more self-conscious. Really, they are more self-conscious.

Chairman KENNEDY. Is that the answer you were looking for, Barbara? [Laughter.]

Senator MIKULSKI. You might be a pitcher, but you are batting a thousand with me. [Laughter.]

Mr. STEWART. They are more self-conscious of what they are doing because in baseball boys are always picking on them, to be honest. They feel that they can't compete at the same level, but girls are getting more involved in sports now at the same ages that boys are, especially baseball, and consequently they become as good athletes as boys at that same age.

Senator MIKULSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Stewart.

Chairman BIDEN. She knows when to stop asking questions. [Laughter.]

Senator MIKULSKI. I think that very often when we think of programs, and particularly programs fighting drugs, we think of them as often male-oriented programs, and I think Mr. Stewart really shows—first of all, as a top athlete, he really shows us how to include more people in programs. So we thank you.

Mr. STEWART. Thank you.

Senator MIKULSKI. Girls have fields of dreams, too, Senator Biden.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Cochran.

Senator COCHRAN. Chairman Kennedy, thank you very much. It is a real privilege for our committee to have the benefit of the insight derived from experiences of witnesses who are scheduled to appear before us today, particularly Mr. Dave Stewart, whom I want to thank personally for taking the time and making the effort to be here before our committee today, to let us have the benefit of your observations and thoughts about what we ought to be doing about this real serious problem that our society faces.

Chairman Kennedy, I think Mr. Stewart is an excellent example of the kind of good citizenship we have at work in many of our communities throughout our country today. People giving their own time, volunteering to try to help out, be a role model, be an active participant in their communities to set an example, teach others how to cope with the pressures in our society today. I just think it is an inspiration to all of us to hear what Mr. Stewart is doing, and I look forward to hearing from the other witnesses as well.

Thank you.

Chairman KENNEDY. Thank you very much.

Chairman Biden.

Chairman BIDEN. Thank you.

Mr. Stewart, you know, it is kind of interesting to me—and I leaned over to Chairman Kennedy when you were answering questions from one of our colleagues. I find it amazing that a man who is self-described as someone who came out of an environment that was pretty tough where you had to make some choices, choices between gangs and the Boys Club and between baseball and drugs, and so on—I don't find it amazing you turned out to be such a great athlete. I don't even find it amazing you turned out to be a fine man.

What I do find amazing is, as young as you are—and I notice you kind of looked when Vernon Law was mentioned. He said Cy Young, 1960. You were going, gee, was I born then in 1960? [Laughter.]

I could see that look on your face. But here you are testifying before a committee of the United States without any notes in front of you, with as much erudition as anyone we have heard testify, and having the phenomenal success you have had not only in terms of recognition by your peers of your prowess, but with, quite frankly, the money you have made, and keeping your head, keeping your wits about you. I mean, it really is astounding; it is amazing.

And the day you decide to stop beating Baltimore—— [Laughter.]

The day you decide that you are no longer playing baseball, I suspect you can move into the field of psychology or public service without missing a beat, because, to get to the point, you have said something in a way that is, quite frankly, more articulate than some of the, quote, "professionals" in the field who have come at least before my committee.

And you have focused on one thing that everybody is telling us now. One of the root concerns and causes of children turning to drugs is a lack of self-esteem. They don't believe in themselves; they think they are losers, and they succumb to pressure. And the pressure doesn't come from some guy or woman in the schoolyard saying, hey, I have got some drugs here. It comes from their best friend saying, hey, I tried it, it works, you can handle it.

And maybe you don't want to try it, but you go ahead because you don't have enough confidence in yourself to say no, which gets me to the second point, and that is that a couple of years ago, because I believe what you are saying to be true, I introduced, with the help of Senator Kennedy and others who ended up supporting it and in many ways were way ahead of it in another sense, a little, tiny provision in a bill—I won't bore you with what the bill was, but a drug bill we introduced a couple of years ago that passed, saying that we were going to put some money in designed to deal with counteracting gangs.

And over on the Judiciary Committee, we don't get as much of an opportunity, nor is it our responsibility, to deal with the health and education side of the equation, which I, quite frankly, would argue is more important than the law enforcement side.

We don't get a chance to deal with it much, and at first people said, OK, you know, here is Biden, he is coming along, he is going to get tough again; we are going to give more money to the police, which I happen to think they should have gotten more money.

But this little bill didn't have anything to do with that. It provided for money that cities and towns and States could use to do things which at first, in my home State, some people laughed at—it was a point of derision for a while—providing money for Boys Clubs, providing money for recreational facilities, and directing that if the State got the money, it had to use it for these things.

And in this year's big old drug bill, the new drug strategy, you know, you heard about that the President had and we changed, we added a lot to that strategy, and one of the things is adding—and the figure is not relevant to this, but I will tell you what the figure is—$100 million to deal with juvenile drug trafficking and prevention.

And one of the things it calls for is trying to set up a Boys Club and Girls Club, scout troops, and little league in every housing project in America, and to set up—and there is a whole list of things it can do; it is not just Boys Clubs and Girls Clubs, but it specifically calls for Boys Clubs and Girls Clubs.

Now, here is my question. You are a famous athlete. Obviously, if you show up at a Boys Club—heck, if you show up at a women's club or a men's club, everybody is going to show up, I mean, so it doesn't matter where it is. You show up and they say you are

coming, Dave Stewart is coming. I promise you I can draw a crowd anywhere among any group of people, particularly young people.

So some people listening to this may say, yes, okay, Dave Stewart has got this KIDSCORPS and, sure he shows up, and everybody is going to show up. And he may be able to have a success, but there is only one of him; there is only one Most Valuable Player of the World Series. And he can give kids self-esteem just by recognizing them, going out and pitching the ball to a little girl or a little boy twice. Man, that is the field of dreams; that is the stuff dreams are made of for kids like me who aspired to be what you are and never had the talent or ability to do it.

But how about regular people? They can't really do that; they can't really impact on kids. So here is my question. What is it that can give a boy or a girl in Oakland or Wilmington, Delaware, or Baltimore, Maryland, or Kansas City, or wherever, the same kind of self-esteem that they draw from being a gang member?

We find out the reason kids join gangs is part of for the same reason, to be somebody. They are going to be somebody. They have got a jacket, they have got colors, they belong. Somebody negatively, but nonetheless reinforces them, saying you are something, and the people saying you are something are the people that are encouraging criminal activity.

How do ordinary people, not Dave Stewart, compete with that kind of negative self-esteem, if there is such a thing, that comes from being a gang member? How does that happen?

Mr. STEWART. That is a tough question.

Chairman BIDEN. How did it happen to you when you were a kid and you were at the Boys Club?

Mr. STEWART. I saw sincerity. That was one that I said. I saw sincerity in everybody that called themselves helping me. As a kid, my high school baseball coach, who was also my PE instructor, preached to me every day. And when I was a kid, it was just that; it was preaching. I didn't want to hear it.

I felt I was a good athlete. I felt that I was a good student. I went to school when I wanted to go to school because I knew I was a good student, but when you tell a person every day that you are a good kid, you don't need to do this, you are a smart kid, you don't need to follow, you have something to offer, what about your family, what would they think if this happened, what would they think if that happened, and you hear it from that person and then you have another person on another side telling you the same things, after a while it starts to register.

It is long-term, the things that you get into when you are in trouble, but it is also long-term, the things you get into when it is good. The things that you do that are good are long remembered. The things that you do when it is bad are long remembered. That is an equalizer.

It is just a question of what kind of person are you really inside. You are not going to be able to reach everybody. Some people are just bad people. There is an apple that grows on a tree; it falls off the tree. It might stay there too long. You take a bite; there is a worm in it. But then there are some apples that fall off the tree; you pick it up, you bite it, it is sweet and makes your mouth water. People are the same way to me.

Some people are just bad people and they will be nothing that you can do, and you can't preach enough. But positive reinforcement day in and day out from home, from recreation, from your pastor at church if you are a church person, is the key to anything.

Sure, you have got pride in a gang. A gang is protection, but you should also have pride in yourself for just day-to-day living, just testing yourself to see how long you can go from staying away from trouble.

Chairman BIDEN. Is it as important or more important to tell that kid who is not all that good an athlete who is out there trying that they are—every time they succeed, in fact, it is a big deal? I mean, again, people are going—the reason I am asking these questions is people are going to say, OK, Dave Stewart was in high school. If I was his high school coach, unless I was blind, I would have to say I have got something really special on my hands here. He has got an arm that is gold, and so I am going to talk to you.

But the point that we are trying to deal with is how do we get those Boys Clubs and those Girls Clubs and those other organizations to reinforce that kid who doesn't have an arm at all, wants to pitch, but can't pitch worth a darn, who wants to be involved, but isn't a class athlete like you. It is even more important to go to that kid, isn't it, or is it?

Mr. STEWART. It is just as important. That is why I used the word "sincerity." Mr. Howard is my high school coach's name, and I remembered him then and I talk to him often now. I have a personal friendship with him. But we had a fat kid in our class named Jim Crater, and Crater didn't like to run the mile. And Mr. Howard would say, come on, Crater, let us go, and Crater would go one lap around with two more to go and he would start walking.

And Mr. Howard would say, well, the important thing is that you finish. I don't care if you walk. If you finish, you did good. That is sincerity. I mean, it is not just for the guy who is the athlete. That is sincerity. That is from the heart, and if you finish, then you did just as well as the guy who finished two minutes ago. The important thing is that you finished. You started it, you finished it. You had to walk, but you finished it. That is sincerity.

Chairman BIDEN. Thank you.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Coats.

Senator COATS. Thank you, Chairman Kennedy.

Mr. Stewart, I want to add my expression of admiration for you. Your willingness to testify and for all that you are doing for the community. As the father of a 12-year-old son whose dream is to be a white man's Dave Stewart, but probably, like millions of other kids, won't be able to throw a fast ball 93 miles an hour and hit the outside corner and break off a curve and all that, what is particularly impressive about you is that you are the kind of hero that kids can emulate without necessarily having to make it to the big leagues.

Most of our heroes today that kids look up to are people that are sports heroes or movie stars or have achieved some significant thing in life, but it is that single event that makes them a hero and makes people look up to them. And yet it is generally something that is so unachievable for the millions of kids and young people that are looking up to those people, that at some point along the

line they are going to be either disillusioned or they are going to come to the conclusion I can't be that person because I can't stand on the mound in a World Series game and be a Cy Young winner or whatever.

What distinguishes you from most of those heroes is that your qualities of character, the values you espouse and the kinds of things that you give back to other people—those are the things that my son and millions of other kids can achieve.

So you are a hero in my eyes not because you are a Cy Young Award winner or because you won two games in the World Series, but you are a hero in my eyes because of what you are doing with those Boys Clubs, what you are doing in your community, and the kind of person that you are. That is very, very evident as you sit here and testify before this committee.

There is a depth of character, there is a sense of values there that we rarely see, and for someone that, as Senator Kennedy and Senator Biden and others have said, has achieved your success, your fame, and made the amount of money that you have made to be able to come before this panel and testify the way you have testified in the kind of sincerity, humility and display of character, I think, is an extraordinary thing.

And that is the kind of hero that I want my son to emulate, and that is the kind of person that I want him to be, and he can do that. He probably won't be able to throw a fast ball 93 miles an hour, but he can be that kind of person, and that is why I think it is so important that you are here and so important what you are doing. And I hope that part of what you are doing is reinforced by millions of people across this country because that is, I think, far more significant than anything you have ever done on the baseball mound.

Now, let me ask you a question, if I could. In working with the kids that you work with—and I say this because a lot of people have come before us and indicated that families today—that the broken family, the torn-apart family, the family that just isn't functioning well is a major contributor to the lack of self-esteem, producing the vacuum that kids are trying to fill, and drugs often become the agent that tries to fill that vacuum.

You have given some indication of the importance of your family growing up, and the support. In fact, you said your coach kept asking the questions, what about your family, what would your family think. And I wish you could comment here about the importance of the family, what you see in terms of the relationship between kids in trouble and their families, and what we can possibly do to strengthen those families and to inject those values in kids about the importance of family and how important family is going to be to their future and to their kids' futures.

Mr. STEWART. Well, first of all, when I talk about family, I am from a family of 6 girls and me and my brother, two boys. My mom worked at the cannery, and she was also a postal worker. My dad worked for Pacific Maritime as a longshoreman.

So when I speak of family, my mom and my dad, they were great supporters, but my dad worked sometimes 12-hour days, would come home, sleep, and be gone for two or three more days. I saw very little of my father, except on weekends. My mom, I saw very

little of her. My actual parents were my sisters and my brother. My sisters did much of the cooking and cleaning, and my brother probably did more of instilling what, I guess, a man should be, and the things that you should know and what your responsibilities are. And someplace between the other 6 sisters that I had, you learn tenderness and you learn responsibilities of sewing your own socks and cooking your own food and doing things like that.

At a later date, my father left my mom and then a year after he left my mom, he died. I was about 13, 14 years old at that time. So I don't know if that qualifies to be a broken family, but I think in a family, whether it is eight people or it is two or three or four, either you have a chemistry or you don't. It is not something that you can teach.

You learn strength by depending on each other; we did. Our Christmases were good Christmases, even though there wasn't much for Christmas. There was a string of about five or six Christmases in a row where we would say, well, guess what this present is, and we knew it was roller skates for about five or six Christmases in a row. But it was fine because we were a family. We had what I would consider a strong foundation between the kids, and then when the parents were there, it was fine.

But you can't teach a kid how to be strong. It is either going to be there within your family or it is not going to be there. I was fortunate that when Mr. Howard said what about your family, sure, I thought about my mom and my dad, but I also thought about my 6 sisters and my brother. I thought about the things that they had taught me somewhere along the way.

And my younger sister, I had to show her something, too. I have always felt a sense of some type of responsibility to somebody because there is somebody under me, or I have always felt that I am a reflection of what was given to me, and that is not just my mom and my dad. That is also Mr. Howard, that's is Mr. Best, that is sister Mary, that is whoever has come along or been a part of my life. In answer to your question, I really don't know how you can teach somebody that. It is something that either you have or you don't.

Senator COATS. Do you notice a relationship between the kids that you work through your clubs—are there more problems, whether it is delinquency or drugs, or whatever, with kids from, let us just say, dysfunctioning families?

Mr. STEWART. Is there more of a problem?

Senator COATS. Yes, than kids with intact families. How important is the family support system from what we would describe as the kind of family that is nurturing and supportive versus kids that come from families that aren't functioning well, whether the father is gone or whether there is abuse, or whatever?

How direct is the relationship between the drug abuse, the delinquency, the lack of self-esteem, and so forth? I know this is probably a question for a psychologist who has done 20 years of studies on the thing, but——

Mr. STEWART. From my experiences around the club, you have a troubled age, period, whether a kid is—you know, there is just a troubled age. Kids that are 5 through 12 are just a problem, re-

gardless of what the situation is at their home. From 12 and up, they become a little bit more responsible.

I couldn't even tell you how many kids in the Oakland Boys Clubs—I participate in two, RCN Car Club on 85th and East 14th, and Meltzer on 24th and Market. I couldn't even tell you how many kids in those two clubs come from single-parent families or how many have, you know, a large family. I couldn't even tell you.

We don't have very many problems in the Boys Clubs, to be honest. The kids come, they show their cards. They go into arts and crafts, or they go in the video shop or they go in the computer room, or they sit out and they play bumper pool or shoot pool, or they go in the gym and participate in basketball practice or intramural sports. We don't have problems inside the Boys Clubs that I can see.

Senator COATS. I guess what you are saying—I know my time is up, Chairman Kennedy. I guess what you are saying is that it is important that kids have support systems to look to, to participate in, and that within those support systems are proper role models, whether it be a coach, whether it be a father, whether it be a big brother, or whatever, to turn to, to point them in the right direction and keep them——

Mr. STEWART. I don't believe that your foundation has to start at home. I believe that if you are missing it at home, then you can find somebody along the way that you admire and you truly respect and you look up to to receive what you are missing at home.

A home can complement what you get from this person, or this person can complement what you are getting at home. You know, sometimes you have to work around things. You have to make substitutions and fit the pieces in, but you can get a strong foundation anywhere as long as the person that you are getting it from has some sense of morals and responsibility and right and wrong.

Senator COATS. Thank you very much. You are a remarkable man and I really appreciated the chance to listen to you this morning.

Mr. STEWART. Thank you.

Senator COATS. Chairman Kennedy, I have a statement for the record.

Chairman KENNEDY. It will be so included.

[The prepared statement of Senator Coats follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR COATS

Senator COATS. One of the most chilling sentences I've read on the issue of drug abuse was authored by a neonatal nurse and appeared in the *Wall Street Journal.* It went, "The most remarkable and hideous aspect of drug use seems to be the undermining of the maternal instinct."

On the extreme, we've seen it with crack babies in the inner city. Drugs have stripped the parents of these children of all normal parental concern. Many don't name their babies, leaving that to nurses. Some never come to visit. Some hospitals must send telegrams to uninterested parents to get them to sign for a postmortem when the child dies.

Fully 50 percent of crack addicts are women. The drug is making junkies of the only remaining heads of inner-city families. Their children are exposed to the world of drugs from the day they are born, if not before. And that world is a violent one. In New York City, 73 percent of child deaths from abuse or neglect in 1987 resulted from adult drug use, up from 11 percent just 2 years before.

Drugs destroy families. It is this fact that drew my concern to this issue many years ago. But there is also a broader point to be made. Families that are fractured, or do not function properly, can be a fundamental cause of drug abuse. If we are to face the problem of addiction squarely, we must take the health of the family into account.

Researcher Judith Wallerstein has made a life study of broken families. And she has reported that children, up to 18 months after their parent's divorce, have a rate of sudden serious psychological problems comparable to "victims of a natural disaster." Many can't concentrate in school or make friends. They are depressed and withdrawn, or hostile and aggressive.

And this vacuum of affection and self-esteem is often filled by some drug that promises escape. The Bureau of Justice statistics has found that two-thirds of all juvenile drug criminals grew up without a mother or father at home.

Allan Carlson of the Rockford Institute summarizes the point, "Researchers in sociology and psychology who look at the family-drug equation move toward a common conclusion: Family life, properly structured, could and did insulate children from drug experimentation and use; and the more traditional the family, the greater the degree of protection."

Families are a major key to tackling this problem. Strong ones will give us a fighting chance. Weak ones will make our job much more difficult. And that is why the focus of this hearing is so vital. Healthy families are first line of drug prevention, as well as the key to any effective program of rehabilitation.

The character of a child is largely formed by the heroes he respects. They can be parents who are concerned and involved, or parents that abuse alcohol or drugs themselves. They can be peers who have moral sense, or peers involved in self-destructive experimentation. They can be sports heroes that set examples, or sports figures who spread disillusion.

There was a time not too long ago when drug use and abuse was treated lightly by movie heroes and sports stars. And this worked to compromise the work of families. So it is a particular pleasure to welcome Dave Stewart today, working to reinforce an anti-drug standard through his influence. We need more like him.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Simon.

Senator SIMON. Thank you, Chairman Kennedy.

I just want to join in commending you. I like your Jim Crater story, incidentally. Some people might think is a small thing, but I think it is very important what you are doing. You earn a lot of money; you could go to the wealthiest suburb in the Bay area rather than continuing to be in Oakland.

You may or may not have heard of a dancer by the name of Katherine Dunham, who is a great leader in the field of dance. She

has made a lot of money over her lifetime. She is living in the heart of East St. Louis, helping kids in East St. Louis.

And what you are doing through your example, and by continuing to work with those young people in Oakland, I think, is a great example for all of us, and I just appreciate it.

Let me just add, my son, I can say, is generally totally unimpressed with my being a U.S. Senator. But when I told him that we were going to have Dave Stewart as a witness here today, that impressed him. [Laughter.]

Thank you, Chairman Kennedy.

Chairman KENNEDY. Thank you very much.

I think all of us have learned a good deal. I hope you recognize that the members are very supportive of your work.

Thank you very much, Dave.

Mr. STEWART. Thank you.

Chairman BIDEN. Thank you.

Chairman KENNEDY. Our next panel provides a vivid picture of what drugs are doing to our society. Reed Tuckson is the Commissioner of Public Health for the District of Columbia. He daily faces the increase of addicted babies, AIDS, and mothers with children who can no longer care for their children. He will discuss what drugs are doing to the fabric of the family.

Ms. Johnnie May Lewis is from South Brooklyn, NY, a grandmother with four children that she is raising. Drugs have ravaged her family and her community, and we are anxious to hear her personal experience with the problem.

Mike Duran is the Director of the Specialized Gang Supervision Unit of the Los Angeles County Probation Department. He once was a member of a gang, and today he provides counseling and education to gangs in California.

Robert Vaughn is a former gang member from Aurora, IL. He has turned his life around and is now a student at the University of Kansas and a member of Governor Thompson's juvenile justice panel.

Dr. Tucker, we are glad to have you. I was very appreciative of the visit by Dr. Tucker to some of these facilities here in the District of Columbia area not long ago.

STATEMENTS OF REED V. TUCKSON, COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA; JOHNNIE MAY LEWIS, SOUTH BROOKLYN, NY; MIKE DURAN, DIRECTOR, SPECIALIZED GANG SUPERVISION PROGRAM, LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT, LOS ANGELES, CA, AND ROBERT VAUGHN, STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE, KS

Dr. TUCKER. Senator, thank you, and members of the committee. It is a pleasure to be here. My name is Reed Tuckson, the Commissioner of Public Health here in the District of Columbia.

One area that I would like to focus my comments on today in dealing in the total perspective of children and families is to focus on women, because that is really the key to what is happening with our children and our families as it relates to substance abuse in so many cases.

As a clinician, I am trained to look at the etiological causes of disease. I was particularly pleased with the discussion I just heard about the importance of the root etiological factors that lead to this kind of abuse, this sense of self-esteem and all those social forces.

I attend a clinic in the poorest section of our city in southeast, in Congress Heights, and I remember vividly last night a pregnant woman who was an abuser of crack cocaine, and asking her last night why does she do this. And as she talked to me about it, it became so very clear. She said, you know, I have no real sense of myself; I have no vision of the concept of the possibility of a meaningful future. I am not moving anywhere; I am caught, I am stagnant, I am not going anywhere. I am under-educated, I am unemployed, and I am really not building my life toward any sense of future or progress. I am caught in the moment. And so basically, she says, I do this to escape. I know it is wrong, but it is all around me.

And living in this environment, she says, living with the tensions, the pressures, the violence, the chaos, the family confusion, the dysfunctional people, I need something to get away from this, and so she does that. And I am very impressed and pleased that you focus on that as an issue because, as clinicians, we look for solving the causation of problems.

When we look at the effect on the individuals and the women and the children in our community, we have to look at also what these drugs are doing to them physiologically and psychologically, particularly crack cocaine, which is the drug of choice now in our city and across urban and, really, National America—the extraordinary effects that we are seeing on the deterioration of heart functioning; the increase in heart rates; the extraordinary episodes of hypertension; the sudden death, as we witnessed tragically from another famous athlete, Len Bias.

We are very well aware of the increasing numbers of seizure disorders that we are seeing as we see the abnormal electrical activity in the brain, and then very dramatically, also, a decrease in the ability of the gastrointestinal tract to function, clamping off of the blood vessels there that thereby causes people not to eat. And we see extremely malnourished, and thereby very vulnerable people whose immune systems don't work as well, who cannot ward off disease, who are not as productive.

Psychologically, we are seeing people, of course, who are addicted. We are seeing people who are depressed, anxious, irritable, people who are getting to the point now where there is a syndrome, a diagnosis called cocaine psychosis, an increasingly more common phenomenon.

And then more generally we are beginning to see the blunting of the human being, the blunting of the development and the growth and the maturation of the individual person, which concerns me greatly.

There is an increased sexuality associated with this drug, not only because of the effects of the drug on sexual drive, but also increased sexuality in trade for the drug itself, selling your body to get the money or the drug to maintain the habit.

That is so tragic because now we see, despite the most unprecedented campaign in our country's history to avoid casual sexual ex-

periences, to use a condom where appropriate, all that education that is associated with AIDS—we now see a skyrocketing of sexually-transmitted diseases among the women of our community, among our entire community.

We know now that in 1985, our penicillin-resistant gonorrhea cases numbered 719 in 1985; last year, 1,371. Syphilis cases in 1985 were 34 in this city; last year, 1,467. This is a direct result of the sexual activity and sexual behavior around the abuse of drugs—very, very important, and very frightening. And, of course, the HIV disease and the implications for that are obvious.

Particularly worrisome not only with the sexual activity, but also we find many people who are doing crack cocaine are now using heroin to come down from the effects of the cocaine and, even worse, many people who are combining cocaine and heroin as a way to get an added or potentiated effect of the combination of drugs.

So 56 percent of the women in our community who have AIDS are I.V. drug abusers or drug abusers themselves, and the overwhelming majority of the remainder of those women are the sexual partners of drug abusers.

With increased sexuality, increased numbers of pregnancies, more people who, of course, are pregnant, and then we have the problems with infant mortality, despite tremendous effort on the part of this city to bring down our infant mortality rate, which we were able to do in 1987, from 21 deaths per 1,000 in 1986 to 19.6 in 1987. That number has gone up to 23.2 last year, and all indicators are that it will continue to go up this year directly as a consequence of substance abuse.

Every month in this city, Chairman Kennedy and Members of the Committee, the ambulances pick up 20 women, at least, who are pregnant and so compromised from the effects of these drugs that they require the services of our emergency medical system.

The babies that survive that process—and you, sir, had a chance to examine some of those babies and saw that these are children with speech and hearing deficits, learning disabilities, anatomical malformations. As they grow older, we begin to see that these are babies that don't want to be held, that cry incessantly, that are irritable, that don't eat well, that don't retain their food, that have a plethora of associated other kinds of sequelae and phenomena. These are children that are going to have very great problems in our society as they grow old, and for which this society is fundamentally unprepared to be able to handle.

Finally, sir, the other issue here is that because of the compromise of the women, these children too often are abandoned. They are left as border babies in our hospitals. We have now today 36 border babies in District of Columbia hospitals, 21 babies at D.C. General Hospital alone, a whole wing of babies. Five of those babies are HIV-positive.

We also know that there are increasing numbers of children being brought to us for child and family protective services as a result of abuse or neglect by women who are unable to manage their child care responsibilities. In fact, a child a day is brought to our system. We have 2,200 children currently in foster care in this

city; 20 to 25 percent of the families in protective services are due to drug-related activity.

And I will conclude, sir, by saying that an even longer-term problem for us now is that we find more and more grandmothers—and I know that there is a grandmother who is going to testify—more and more grandmothers are now required to shoulder the responsibility of chiid-rearing when they have already paid their dues. They are already tired, they are already overloaded, and they have got to now manage much more complicated young people than they had to manage when they were, in fact, the primary care-givers in the past.

This is the range of challenges that confront us. This is what we are seeing every day, and when we have time for questions, perhaps I can elaborate.

Thank you.

Chairman KENNEDY. Well, thank you very much, Doctor. We can come back to these points. That was a good introduction to Ms. Johnnie May Lewis. We would like to ask Ms. Lewis a few questions, if that is OK. Bring that mike right up close to you right now.

We want to thank you very much for coming here and being willing to share your experience, your family's experience, which has been one of really difficult challenges, certainly, in your life. But there are some important rays of hope which I know we can talk about as well.

Could you tell us your age?

Ms. LEWIS. Sixty.

Chairman KENNEDY. And where do you live?

Ms. LEWIS. In Brooklyn, Red Hook Project.

Chairman KENNEDY. Has there been a lot of drug dealing and drug use at the Red Hook Project over the last several years?

Ms. LEWIS. Oh, plenty; shooting every night, every night. Somebody gets hurt or they just shoot. You are afraid to walk down the street. I am not, though. I walk with God; I don't be afraid.

Chairman KENNEDY. And you have two children, a son, Eddie, who is 38, and a daughter, Rosalyn, who is 26, is that right?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes. Eddie—I have his 15-year-old daughter, and Eddie is 11.

Chairman KENNEDY. All right, but let us talk about your children and then we will come to the grandchildren. Eddie, who is now 38—was he a good student when he was in grade school?

Ms. LEWIS. He went to school 8 years, never was late and never was absent.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did he do so well that he attended a very good high school?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes. We was in the paper. They had us to stand on the stage. He was a very good student. You can put any test before him right now; he can pass it.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did he have jobs after school?

Ms. LEWIS. Well, he worked after school; you know, messenger.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did he drop out of high school in his senior year?

Ms. LEWIS. He would have been the star. He made it to the 12th grade. They picked a nice, beautiful school, but it was too far for

him to travel. They picked a dump; that is when he started dropping out. So he got his equivalence in jail. As soon as he got there, he got it and sent it to me because I was so hurt.

Chairman KENNEDY. He was married when he was 22, is that right?

Ms. LEWIS. Right, about that age.

Chairman KENNEDY. And he and his wife had an apartment in the project?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes.

Chairman KENNEDY. And they had two children, a daughter, Kenya, and a son, Eddie, is that correct?

Ms. LEWIS. Right.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did your son and his wife start using cocaine at some time?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes. I don't know when they started, but I know they was on it, both; still is.

Chairman KENNEDY. Were they both arrested and sent to jail?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes. I took the children. Let me see. He went to jail first. She would go to jail for shoplifting, so——

Chairman KENNEDY. What was he arrested for?

Ms. LEWIS. You know something? He was arrested about four times. He never would tell me. He didn't want to discuss it, and I really did never find out, but I think it was for robbery. I don't know.

Chairman KENNEDY. Were they doing this to get the money to buy the cocaine?

Ms. LEWIS. I think so.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did they lose their apartment?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes.

Chairman KENNEDY. And did he lose the job?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes, but he—as I told you, he could pass any kind of test you put in front of him. He passed the test, and I paid for all his records for jail about five times. I think it was—well, he was taking $10 from me saying he had to pay for his records.

They hired him here for transit. All he had to do was clean about two or three trains at night. I went in the hospital May 5. He quit—they hired him and he worked 5 weeks. He didn't give me a dime. He cracked the whole—he bought his daughter a $70 pair of sneakers, one pair of jeans, and he cracked the rest. He said he was finished with crack after he got that good job.

Chairman KENNEDY. You mean he spent it on crack?

Ms. LEWIS. Every dime.

Chairman KENNEDY. Now, at some time, he went to jail, she went to jail, and you took the children, is that right?

Ms. LEWIS. Well, when he went to jail, she had the children.

Chairman KENNEDY. And when she went to jail, you took the children?

Ms. LEWIS. No. I took the children before she went to jail because she wasn't able to take care of them. So they said, grandma, can we stay with you? I said yes. I took care of them so many years without getting legal guardian. I had them 10 years.

Chairman KENNEDY. I understand that when your son was in the jail, he received a high school equivalency diploma, is that right?

Ms. LEWIS. That is right.

Chairman KENNEDY. And now your son and his wife are separated, is that correct?

Ms. LEWIS. Been separated, yes.

Chairman KENNEDY. They have been separated, and she is on crack, too?

Ms. LEWIS. Well, she was on some drug before crack come out. Now, they take everything.

Chairman KENNEDY. Did your son enter a treatment program and get a job just before you went into the hospital?

Ms. LEWIS. He got a job working for transit, I told you.

Chairman KENNEDY. I see, and he lost that job?

Ms. LEWIS. I went in the hospital May 5. He quit the job May 6 and cleaned my house out. He took everything.

Chairman KENNEDY. Does he come to see the children?

Ms. LEWIS. What?

Chairman KENNEDY. Does he come over and see the children?

Ms. LEWIS. They see him on the streets.

Chairman KENNEDY. And how old is his daughter, Kenya?

Ms. LEWIS. Fifteen. She is trying to do what he did. She went to school 4 years and never was late and never was absent.

Chairman KENNEDY. What does she think about drugs?

Ms. LEWIS. Oh, she can talk. She says she would never take drugs. She says, grandma, when I get grown and you be walking around with a stick, she says, I am going to take care of you. I told her all grandma wants is respect; I am glad I am able to take care of you.

Chairman KENNEDY. Well, it appears that because of your loving care, she is doing very well. How old is your grandson, Eddie?

Ms. LEWIS. Eleven.

Chairman KENNEDY. How is he doing in school?

Ms. LEWIS. Not too good. Well, I had to change the school. Eddie is the type like this: If you don't bother him, he is bright just like his sister. He will do his work, but if somebody bothers him, he puts his pen down. He done lost two grades. He was at this school where the children are—they fight, fight, fight every day.

Once, out of a week when I was working, I had to take off and go to the school for Eddie. Well, he is bad, but the children is badder. They bother him. He will fight back, and he throws chairs and, oh, I am telling you. So, now, we have him in counseling and he is going to a special ed class starting Monday.

And it is about 12 people, and he is going to show them that he really can do the work, and he can. You don't have to help him, and he is going to be placed in the right grades. It was really the school. The principal that they had at the school, she would keep him home more than he would be in the school. If he looked straight, she would suspend him. He was home the whole year.

Chairman KENNEDY. Let me just find out how many grandchildren you have. You are raising four grandchildren, isn't that right?

Ms. LEWIS. Four, yes; two from my daughter.

Chairman KENNEDY. One-and-a-half, 2½, 11, and 15, so you have your hands full, is that right?

Ms. LEWIS. Yes.

Chairman KENNEDY. Is it hard making ends meet?

Ms. LEWIS. The ends meet? No.

Chairman KENNEDY. Do you make ends meet?

Ms. LEWIS. I have to——

Chairman KENNEDY. Is it hard to afford? Is it hard to pay all the bills?

Ms. LEWIS. I don't have any bills.

Chairman KENNEDY. Well, you must have some food bills and heating bills and those kinds of things.

Ms. LEWIS. Well, I have two welfare and I have two foster kids. My daughter's two are on foster care.

Chairman KENNEDY. What would happen to them if you were not there?

Ms. LEWIS. If what?

Chairman KENNEDY. If you weren't around to look after these children, what would happen to them?

Ms. LEWIS. Well, I wouldn't know.

Chairman KENNEDY. They wouldn't have anyone else, it would appear, to look out after them, would they?

Ms. LEWIS. No. When I got ready to go in the hospital, I give them to the foster care to take care until I come out.

Chairman KENNEDY. Well, it is very sad about your children, who started out so well and have had the problems they have had, but I think it is wonderful that you have been there to provide the love and care for the grandchildren. And we commend you and respect you, and I know it is very difficult, but you deserve a lot of credit.

Mr. Duran.

Mr. DURAN. My name is Mike Duran and I am, I guess, today representing Los Angeles County, since there is nobody else here from Los Angeles County, and the Probation Department.

Before I get started on my presentation, I would like to say that when I was contacted, I figured that I could just come over, wing it, say a few things, and get out of here. But as time passed, the enormity of the whole process kind of hit me. It is something like that, in that I was thinking one day I am a gang member flipping fingers at people passing by, and next minute, or the next day—well, several days later, I am sitting in front of an august committee like this having been given the opportunity to talk about things that are going on as far as gangs and drugs and youth at risk are concerned, and also to be able to express some concerns and feelings about it.

And so I did put together something based on the questions that you sent me, and hopefully it will be the type of answers that you were hoping for. And, also, I will be open after the conversation to talk about anything else, maybe in a more relaxed manner.

And I also would like to say that I was very jealous of Dave Stewart because he has been able to become a hero, a sports hero, and somebody that all of you could look up to, and I was never able to be anything like that. And because I was never able to be anything like that, I got my self-esteem out of walking the streets with a whole bunch of dudes, okay. And it took me a while to clean my act up, but I did it.

The questions—I will kind of read the questions or the comments that you wanted me to delve. Perspectives on problems of youth groups and drugs in neighborhoods of Los Angeles County—they

had their beginnings in the Mexican barrios, East Los Angeles, San Fernando, San Gabriel, central city Los Angeles, San Pedro, and Watts. Youth street gangs were traditionalized by Mexican Americans, then blacks.

Drugs of one kind or another have always been associated with young gangs. Members peddle dope, networking in the business sense mainly among the more than 400 existing gangs by the end of 1979.

At the end of 1979, some 180 murders had been attributed to territorial disputes, gang fights, house party fights, and a small percentage to drug deals gone sour. Some victims were innocent bystanders.

By the end of 1989, we will experience 500 gang-related or gang-motivated murders. Some will be nongang members, some will be innocent bystanders; very few will be attributed to gang fights where several gang members from different factions go at each other. Most will be drive-by shootings. While many of the reasons for the violence remain, the primary reason for a majority of these murders is now attributed to sour dope deals.

A major problem, besides drugs, is the number of nontraditional gangs that have sprung up. These nontraditional gangs are made up of recent immigrants from Mexico, Central America, China, Korea, Vietnam, the Philippines, Jamaica, Haiti, and Samoa. They burst upon the scene in the last 10 years. The justice system is not equipped to deal with them because of language and cultural differences.

Community-based agencies are gearing up in an attempt to make a difference. These groups are losing control of their children. The children find it exciting to belong to gangs and act in anti-social ways. They are violent, anti-social, not willing to integrate into our social system, preferring their own mode of dress and language. And, yes, they, too, are heavily into drug trafficking.

The second question: experience as the Director of the SGSP—that means Specialized Gang Supervision Program—observations of the changing nature of gangs in terms of violence and organization.

Having noted that many gang members were on probation, we decided to concentrate on them. We put them in special reduced caseloads. We assigned them to specially trained deputies who volunteered for the assignments, networked extensively with other facets of the justice system in order to transfer knowledge and present cases in court in such a way as to have the judge render favorable conditions.

We came into being the latter part of 1980. At that time, we identified gang members in our juvenile and adult case files and transferred them to our special caseloads. We also alerted our investigating officers to refer new gang cases to us.

We categorized our cases from low-risk to high-risk offenders. We no longer have the luxury of working with low-risk offenders. Our caseloads are made up entirely of high-risk offenders. Because of the violent nature of the gangs they belong to, because they have exhibited a propensity toward violence, because they brag openly about their drug-dealing escapades, they are our targets.

The Hispanic gangs by and large are drug consumers. If they are into sales, they do so in a more clandestine manner, so are harder

to identify and prosecute, then not given longer sentences. The black gangs draw attention to themselves openly, huckstering their wares. When they are caught and convicted, they are given several years' time.

The south side of Los Angeles, Compton and Watts, where most of the black gangs are concentrated have seen the bloodiest wars in Los Angeles' recent history. The incentive for murder is money, which is excused as economic survival. And, of course, money comes from drug-dealing.

The Asian community gangsters prey on their own kind. They break into homes, assault inhabitants, buy and sell drugs, and take advantage of what they consider to be a very weak justice system.

The white community has also gotten into the act. White teenagers are forming into skinhead gangs, devil worship cults, and stoners. They are heavy into drugs and are flying Blood and Cripp colors and dressing in traditional cholo clothing, as well as tag-writing, which is a form of graffiti.

Regardless of race, creed or color, young people from want-to-be gang members to gang psychopaths in the majority of cases seem to have lost respect for parents, community, authority, and self.

A third question: suggestions for effective prevention of young people from joining violent youth gangs. Most written material today, regardless of whether the research is from universities or from people working the streets, seems to agree that there is a definite breakdown in moral values. How can you rehabilitate someone if they were never habilitated to begin with?

Effective, common-sense projects have got to be instituted. This not a new-beginning approach. Across the country, people and programs are already in place. We need to network across the country and share these models. We have to realize that we are not planning space shots. What we are planning to do is to save our most precious commodity, our youth, so it is worth every penny we expend. I, for one, am in favor of my taxes going for something I support rather than something I feel is less important.

Young people, from the womb to age 18, must be cared for in prevention. Prevention, to me, takes on different meanings. One, women who are drug abusers and pregnant must be given special care so that when the child is born, the child is checked for drug dependency. If the baby is dependent, they can effect detoxification.

Two, effective parenting programs which would emanate from community-based agencies or schools; these classes could be attended voluntarily or court-mandated. Three, for recent immigrants, so they and their children don't succumb to the lure of the streets, new citizens commissions; they would be taught the rights and privileges of living in the United States, making their assimilation less painful.

The church, regardless of denomination, must be encouraged and supported in their efforts to reach their parishioners with youth programs. Leisure time for youngsters is essential, but it has to be meaningful. Recreation centers must have programs for toddlers to senior citizens, and trained, sensitive staff with which to run them.

Active gang members should not be run off. They should be encouraged to participate. After all, they are the children of parents

who are using those centers. Boy Scouting, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs, YWCAs, other private programs that reached out to neighborhood youth in the past should, however, be programs that should also be included. However, the programs should be those that are meaningful and up to the times. They should be teaching inter-groups relations, self-esteem, the value of an earned dollar, parent respect, self-respect, and respect for others.

Community-based agencies many times take the place of parents as surrogates. We have to respect the fact that in many families both parents work. If we don't want latchkey kids, then let us use community-based agencies, church facilities, and school facilities. Let us maximize facilities we are already paying for.

Probation in Los Angeles has taken a giant step forward with regard to prevention. I have just been given overall responsibility for directing not only the Specialized Gang Supervision Program, but the Gang Alternatives Prevention Program as well.

Since we are mandated by the State to operate under the welfare and institutions code, as well as the penal code, we must meet the needs of youth brought to the attention of the court, but no one is telling us that we can't divert youth from the justice system. So with the help of Allied Resources, we will set about providing

the type of treatment that will give a youngster a better chance of making it in the community.

For those youth who are too hard-headed to appreciate an effort at rehabilitation, we send them to places where they can alternately make little rocks out of big rocks, as well as going through an educational program. This last one, I also consider prevention because my big aim is to keep them out of prison.

In conclusion, I would say that though I only mentioned eight social institutions, all are worthy of merit and, more important, your support and your bucks.

Thank you.

Chairman BIDEN. Thank you, Mr. Duran. I appreciate your testimony.

Mr. Vaughn, do they call you Bob or Robert?

Mr. VAUGHN. Robert.

Chairman BIDEN. Robert.

Mr. VAUGHN. Some people call me Bob. It doesn't matter.

Chairman BIDEN. At your size, I will call you whatever you want to be called. [Laughter.]

I understand that you were a youth gang member in a gang called the Deuces, is that right? Were they called the Deuces?

Mr. VAUGHN. That is correct.

Chairman BIDEN. And I also know you left the gang a few years ago. How did you get started with a youth gang?

Mr. VAUGHN. It started back when I was in junior high school, about seventh or eighth grade. Our school was having financial problems and they started to cut our athletic programs. So, basically, what we had that summer was a bunch of aggressive boys and girls, some girls, that wanted to belong to some type of group, you know. They just wanted to be wild, aggressive, you know, and just get involved in any activities that they could.

Chairman BIDEN. So when the school athletic programs cut down for budget reasons or other reasons, you all started hanging on the corner and you decided you would start your own program?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right.

Chairman BIDEN. And you called it a gang and you called it the Deuces, right?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right.

Chairman BIDEN. Now, you were about 14 years old then?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right.

Chairman BIDEN. As I understand it, you and other gang members got involved in not only using drugs, but selling drugs, is that right?

Mr. VAUGHN. That is correct.

Chairman BIDEN. How did that come about? Did someone just drop on the corner and say, hey, we want to put you guys in business, or how did it work?

Mr. VAUGHN. No. What happened was—or what tends to happen sometimes is you will have someone who has an older brother, an uncle, who might be trying to sell drugs. And since his nephew is part of the family, he distributes some drugs to him, and maybe the nephew goes off and starts to sell it to other people. And if he has like a buddy, he will give him a large amount so he can go and start selling for himself, and that is the way, you know, it tends to happen.

Chairman BIDEN. And that is kind of how it tended to happen with you and your guys and girls that you hung out with?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right.

Chairman BIDEN. When did you leave the gang?

Mr. VAUGHN. I left the gang in approximately 1985.

Chairman BIDEN. And how old were you then, roughly.

Mr. VAUGHN. Fifteen.

Chairman BIDEN. Fifteen years old?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right.

Chairman BIDEN. And why did you leave the gang?

Mr. VAUGHN. The reason I left the gang is because I was finding myself in the same situation every year or every month, you know. I would get locked up for some reason. You know, it seemed like the law was coming down on me for just, you know, crazy stuff, and I found myself in jail asking myself is this what I want to do for the rest of my life, you know. And I came to the conclusion that, no, this is not what I want to do for the rest of my life, and there were people there for me, you know, after I made that decision.

Chairman BIDEN. Who did you go to when you made that decision? I mean, as a 15-year-old kid, you make that decision, but it is one thing to make it and another thing to do it. I mean, did you go to anybody and ask for help or guidance, or was there any adult around at the time that played a part at that time?

Mr. VAUGHN. OK. As far as me getting directly out of the gang, it was on my own, but there was someone there for me for after I did—it was like this: you make the decision and I will help you, but until then, I am not going to help you. It was like a decision that I had to make before I got help afterwards.

Chairman BIDEN. And who gave you the help?

Mr. VAUGHN. His name is Jeff Scull. He is sitting off to my left in the beige jacket over here.

Chairman BIDEN. Jeff, identify yourself, will you? [Mr. Scull stood.]

There you go, and welcome, and thanks.

Your life seems to have turned around a great deal. You didn't just get out of the gang, but things have moved on pretty well for you since then. Can you tell us about your experiences? I mean, what happened when you got out of the gang? Did you change schools? When you decided to get out and Mr. Scull said I will help you from that point on, what kind of help did you get?

Mr. VAUGHN. First of all, Jeff asked me, he goes, well, when you get out of here, do you want to come and stay with me for about 6 weeks so you can get stabilized and on your feet? You know, at this point in time I didn't know I had athletic ability at all. You know, I was not one of those kids where I had a good arm or, you know, goods hands or anything. I didn't know that I had these abilities.

So he asked me to stay at his place for a while until I got, you know, stable, and it was all right with my mom. I went there for 6 weeks. I decided to go out for football.

Chairman BIDEN. The same school you had been going to?

Mr. VAUGHN. No. This is a different school. I went to a different school.

Chairman BIDEN. You switched schools?

Mr. VAUGHN. Right. I went from—see, because when I was locked up, I went from a junior—it was like a transition from junior high to high school.

Chairman BIDEN. Got you.

Mr. VAUGHN. And I decided to go out for football, and I just happened to—I wanted to be a running back, you know, so that is how it happened, basically.

Chairman BIDEN. Okay, so you made it to school. In the new school, you went out for ball. Did you have a drug dependency then? Were you still taking drugs?

Mr. VAUGHN. No, I wasn't. Actually, what helped me clean my system is when I got locked up, I cleaned my system. And, you know, people say that is not good for you, and I would realize that, too, after I would wake up and I would be like, you know, I can't believe I just did that to myself.

You know, but I think that the rehabilitation program that I was in helped me clean my system out. You know, I didn't want any more.

Chairman BIDEN. As a practical matter, what happened with all your old friends? I mean, you know, you have got Robert, man; he was bad and he was part of this outfit, and all of a sudden he wakes up one day and he says I am out, and then you make the transition. Did you move out of the neighborhood when you moved in with Mr. Scull? Was it a different place? Did you get away from these folks completely or were you still in the same general neighborhood? Did you see them? How did you make that break in terms of them, individual people you used to hang out with?

Mr. VAUGHN. Let me explain something first. My mom still lives in that neighborhood and I go there as often as I can. Before we were gang members, we were friends, so the friends that I had

before they were gang members are still my friends. You know, there are only like three of them that are real, true friends, but as of now they are locked up for coke or for crack, for some reason or another.

But I am not going to knock them because they do the drugs. You know, I try to talk to them and set an example, you know, and show them that there is another way, there are other alternatives. But like you say, I have friends that are still in and they don't knock me. They respect me for who I am.

Chairman BIDEN. That is what I was going to ask. They didn't come down on you and say, hey, man, you know, you broke the code, you know, you are no longer my friend? These guys who were in the gang and are still in the gang look at you now, even though you are out, and still respect you?

Mr. VAUGHN. The majority of them look at me as a coward.

Chairman BIDEN. Right.

Mr. VAUGHN. But there are some of them that respect me for what I do and for who I am.

Chairman BIDEN. And they are the ones you call your real friends?

Mr. VAUGHN. Exactly.

Chairman BIDEN. Right. Now, I have got a question written here by the staff that sounds like something that nobody can answer. What would you tell people who are faced with the same things you were faced with when you were 14, so help you God? [Laughter.]

I added the last part.

Without getting real fancy about it, I mean a lot of people are going to look and say, OK, here is one guy. He had the stuff like the stories of 50 and 75 years ago of people who fight their way out of Hell's Kitchen, but there are 95 percent of them left behind.

I mean, what was it that made you stop. I mean, you just woke up one morning and said, hey, man, I can't stand these hangovers, it is killing me, it is ruining my body? I mean, what happened?

Mr. VAUGHN. OK. I think it was a lot to do with my mom, and she was always nagging me. She was always telling me this is wrong, this is wrong. You know, you are doing bad; this is not good, this is not good. And when I would get, you know, put in incarceration, you know, the people there would say this is not the way to do things, this is not the way to do things.

So I always had positive peer pressure, you know, beating at my door from every which way, you know, from the home and then from other people, from adults, I am talking about here. And I just decided, you know, I have tried this. As of right now, I am at rock bottom; you know, I am at rock bottom. I have no other way to go here.

Chairman BIDEN. That gets me to the point and the concluding question I want to ask you. There are a lot of folks who say no one can do anything about a serious problem they face until they hit rock bottom. Do you think that is true? Do you think any of those gang members have to go all the way to the bottom before they can make that decision to, say, get out, I want out, or do you think people—do you know anybody else you hung out with who made the same decision you made?

Mr. VAUGHN. My best friend did.

Chairman BIDEN. And did he hit rock bottom, too?

Mr. VAUGHN. No, he didn't. He learned from my mistakes.

Chairman BIDEN. Good man.

Mr. VAUGHN. And you can do that, you can do that. It is possible to learn from someone else's mistake and just carry on with your life from there, you know.

Chairman BIDEN. As long as you have someone else to look to a little bit?

Mr. VAUGHN. Exactly.

Chairman BIDEN. OK. I don't have any more questions right now, Chairman Kennedy. If you want to make any other comment, you go right ahead.

Mr. VAUGHN. Yes. I wanted to say the reason I am here, or the reason I would like to speak is because I believe that there is a chance. As Dave Stewart was saying earlier, you know, there are some bad seeds out there and you just can't do it, and this and that.

But I was considered in my community a bad seed. You know, I was from a single-parent home and, you know, it just looked like I was thick-headed. You couldn't tell me anything, you know. But, actually what it was—to me, it was not having a dad there, a foundation, or someone there to tell me this is wrong and this is right.

So what I learned, I had to learn on my own, and I think that is why it took—you know, that is why I had to get to rock bottom because no one was there to tell me this is wrong, Robert; you know, sit down and say this is wrong.

So I guess basically what I am saying is there is a chance. If you have the right people, you know, to work with you and the right programs to work with you, there is a chance for those bad seeds.

Chairman BIDEN. When you are able some day—when you are a little older and able and out on your own and finished with school and everything, do you think you are going to be willing to take some kid in who wants to get out for 6 months like Jeff did?

Mr. VAUGHN. That is my goal.

Chairman BIDEN. Good man.

Mr. VAUGHN. That is one of my goals.

Chairman BIDEN. OK, thanks. I have no further questions, Chairman Kennedy.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator Simon.

Senator SIMON. Yes, Chairman Kennedy, thank you. First of all, I want to say, with pride, Robert Vaughn is from Illinois.

Chairman BIDEN. I was wondering how he got here.

Senator SIMON. Yes. And, second, I think there are really two heroes, among others. In addition to you being a hero—your mother, for nagging you, Jeff Scull sitting over here, who took you into his home, and who really sensed there was something in Robert Vaughn.

What has not been told here is that you went to this high school in which you played football. What else happened to you in high school?

Mr. VAUGHN. OK. I tell this story all the time. When I first enrolled, and you have to understand I went straight from, hey, yo, yea, this and that, you know. OK. After I went to school, and regis-

tered, I went back home and I said, "Jeff, I have got a question for you. Where are all the black people, you know?" And he goes, "Oh, I forgot to tell you, you are the only one." [Laughter.]

This is good, this is good. And so I went from an environment of, yo, hey, to hello, my name is, you know—— [Laughter.]

It was a big change for me. You know, I wasn't used to that, but they accepted me, just as I accepted them, you know. I became class president and vice president, and then president of student council and, you know, all these honors in football; not only football, but also leadership.

You know, I went to U of I for one summer. They paid for it; my school paid for it. And there were 56 people there and I was selected as one of the top six leaders, and I thought that was a great honor. I mean, not only am I contributing by volunteering with senior citizens in my neighborhood and helping kids by setting the example, but I am also—I don't know——

Senator SIMON. We know.

Mr. VAUGHN [continuing]. Giving 100 percent, and that is one thing that I tell everyone, old, young—white, black. If you give 100 percent, you should expect 100 percent, and you should never give less than 100 percent of yourself in whatever you do.

Senator SIMON. We are very proud of you. Now, I have one word of warning to my colleagues here just in case you move into Massachusetts or Delaware. What are you majoring in, Robert?

Mr. VAUGHN. Political science.

Senator SIMON. OK. [Laughter.]

Chairman BIDEN. I hope you have figured out the right party, Robert, along the way. [Laughter.]

Senator SIMON. I have no further questions, but I am very grateful to you, and also to Jeff Scull.

Thank you, Chairman Biden.

Chairman KENNEDY. If I could come back to Dr. Tuckson just for a minute. What is your position on proposals that have been made to legalize drugs?

Dr. TUCKSON. From my experience as a health commissioner and as a clinician, I am not in favor of legalizing drugs. Drugs such as crack cocaine—I cannot imagine how you could do such a thing, particularly in that this is a drug that is extraordinarily addictive, whose duration of action is really only minutes in terms of its effect.

These are people, then, who would require this drug multiple, multiple times throughout the day. I can't imagine a system that could make the kind of supply available for such a demand.

The effects of these drugs on the women who are pregnant or of child-bearing age are extraordinary. The damage that they do to the fetus, we see every day. The difficulty in curing such an addiction is also one that is of great concern to me.

So I am not in favor of it, sir. In fact, I am in a situation now where I am very dependent on people such as yourself around helping us to solve the problems that result from addiction to this particular drug. The number of women who need care—the number of women who need in-patient care is extraordinary in this city.

We have $2 million in a budget bill that, in fact, the Congress was kind enough, thoughtful enough, to put in just for establishing

in-patient treatment centers for pregnant women alone. That is a budget that is now held up by the President of these United States. That is a tragedy. We have enough trouble trying to solve the problems. We don't need to legalize this particular drug.

Chairman KENNEDY. Maybe you can talk a little bit about the phenomenon of the increased use of crack cocaine by women, and the kind of explosion of child abuse that you are seeing.

Dr. TUCKSON. Yes. One of the real tragedies of this, especially of the drug crack, is that it is a drug that women seem to enjoy. They are not disabused of using it perhaps because you don't have the attendant complications or unpleasant nature of injecting the drug, the irritation that comes to the nasal passages from inhaling the drug. This is a convenient way to use it, to smoke this crack cocaine.

As a result, we see just an absolute epidemic of women who are doing it, and the consequences, again, are very much related toward the absolute, extraordinary addiction that occurs. But more than just the addiction to the drug, the physiological, the psychological complications, is the loss of the maternal instinct.

We have never seen that, really, at this level of magnitude in the history of human experience with a substance that causes people to no longer care about being a mother, the most fundamental of drives that occurs.

The abuse of young people begins with: first, the abuse of the parent, who is just not available to be there for the child. Second, the abuse is the abuse that occurs from abandonment. And, third, the abuse is the abuse of neglect.

We have incidents in this city where babies are brought to emergency rooms in our hospitals because they have been crawling about the home environment and find pieces of drugs or other poisons that they ingest. That also is abuse because they are, again, not able to supervise. And so we are seeing this, and we are seeing more and more of it.

Our epidemic of crack abuse in this city is not dwindling, despite all the education, despite all the information. There is no one in our city that is unaware of this problem, this phenomenon. We have told information; we know the dangers.

But the problem comes, Chairman Kennedy, that even when we say to a pregnant woman, do not do crack cocaine because it will induce premature labor, there are many women who will use crack cocaine to induce premature labor. These are the kinds of paradoxes, so that the solutions are going to be very complex and very deep.

Chairman KENNEDY. Let me ask Robert Duran and Robert Vaughn about guns and the gangs, the kinds of weapons that are weapons of choice. How important are these weapons to the gangs?

Mr. DURAN. Since we are into drive-by shootings now, naturally, it is guns, okay. Back a few years back when the gangs were going at each other in groups, it might have been guns, it might have been knives, it might have been anything else that was handy just because the approaches to one another were that you had to know who was attacking you, and you also had to stand up to the fact that if you attacked a group, you could expect that they were going to retaliate. And they would do the same thing. They would have

the guts to come back at you in such a way that you would know who had done it.

Nowadays, the drive-bys have become very popular, so that it doesn't even matter anymore what kind of car the guy is driving. Whatever it might be, his mother's, his father's car—whatever it is, they will go down. They have anything from shotguns to machine guns to handguns, and they will use them. They don't care who they hit. All they know is that they are hitting a neighborhood. It doesn't matter who in that neighborhood they have hit. If that person is walking around, male, female, old, young, whatever, they have hit that particular neighborhood. And they get their ha-ha's off of that and then they go away.

And, yes, they do expect that they are going to come back; you know, that there are going to be reprisals, but they also expect that it is going to be with heavy-duty type of armament.

The other thing, of course, too, is that the gang wars are heightened by the use or sales of narcotics—like I said, drug deals gone sour. And these gang kids are fools. The guys that are pushing the drugs on one another are into it for business reasons. When they get themselves in a bind, they go to their brothers in the gang and say, hey, that other gang messed over us; we are not going to allow that to happen, are we? Come on, back me up, and let us go shoot them up. And these fools go do it.

Chairman KENNEDY. I just have a final question, and maybe Bob Vaughn or Mr. Duran might be able to answer it regarding the change in behavior of gangs. Are gangs moving more now into the drug area, is that correct?

Mr. DURAN. You know, I, myself, had tried to draw the line, hold the line there and say that, no, that drugs weren't making that much of a difference within the youth gang environment, and I wanted that feeling to prevail because I had hoped that while were, on the one hand, able to cope with youth gang violence, we really weren't, and maybe still aren't, able to cope not only with the youth gang violence, but also with the drug-pushing and the change in the personalities that is taking place in the youngsters that are doing these things. We are having trouble with it.

Chairman BIDEN. I think Robert wanted to make a comment.

Mr. VAUGHN. I was going to say from what I can see, from the time that I was in, I can see that the drugs are making it worse, or it is getting a lot worse from the time I was in it, and it was only 4 or 5 years ago. You know, it seems like as if—because when I was in, you know, if you get a gun, you got it from a burglary or something like that, or if you sold drugs, it was your own choice.

But, now, from what I see when I go back to my mom's, it is more organized than it was before, you know, when I was in. So it has gotten worse and it is a problem.

Chairman KENNEDY. Chairman Biden.

Chairman BIDEN. Doctor, I would like to ask you a couple of questions. I just had a formal debate at Georgetown Law School with two very prominent people who were not some, you know, representatives from some fringe organization; one, in particular, Nationally known, a very mainstream individual, and another person who is substantial and reasonable, and heading now an organization for the legalization of drugs.

The question Chairman Kennedy asked you—I suspect if we had been asked that question 3 years ago, everybody would have said, well, you know, the possibility of any kind of consensus arrived at for that is not likely.

And what I sense is driving the legalization argument is—this is just my view—is coming from many people who maybe don't even intentionally mean this, but kind of know that if we ever were to legalize drugs, you may very well be able to push it back into the ghetto and eliminate the violence that suburbanites and rural communities most fear.

As you know better than I, we had a heroin problem in the 1960's, but it was essentially confined to the ghetto and you could hardly get anybody to talk about it on a National basis.

So my question is this—and let me be the devil's advocate with you a minute and ask you two questions that are asked me in this debate. The first is that, doctor, clearly there are more deaths generally and more damage done specifically to infants and newborns as a consequence of alcohol abuse and alcoholism in America, and you legalized that and you know the damage it has done. How can you argue against legalizing drugs so that at least it is controlled and the revenue that will be gathered from the control of it would be able then to be put back into education and treatment for those who conclude they wish to consume? Why isn't that a good idea?

Dr. TUCKSON. Well, first, the premise of the question itself almost states it. If you have got a problem already with alcohol and many, many children and babies dying as a result of maternal abuse of alcohol during the pregnancy, you don't go ahead and compound that problem by adding yet another toxin that becomes freely available and make it worse. It already tells you that you have a problem.

Second, it gets again to the issue of I have yet to see—when people talk about legalizing it, explain to me, then, how are we going to decide at 3 a.m. in the morning when you are going to make this legal that you are going to have it available for this person to get this drug.

I mean, are you going to have any controls at all? You can get as much as you want, you can kill yourself with it, you can go ahead and overdose and we don't care; just make it completely available and open? Or are they talking about having some limitations?

If they are talking about some kind of control, some point of distribution, some way of putting controls on this matter, then you have got the problem of what are you going to do at 3 a.m. in the morning, because people are going to want the drug at 3 a.m. in the morning.

Or what about the purity of the drug, or what about the new drug? What about the drug that is now a different mixture, a different congener? There are going to always be people who are available to make something different, and the marketplace perhaps will be able to provide. Then you have the black market still in existence and people will still kill each other around the selling and distribution of these sorts of things.

I have yet to see those schemes that will solve, and can guarantee to us that we will solve the distribution, the entrepreneurial, the conflict problems that result from the business aspects of this.

But I still am left with the reality that while people may—and alcohol is a dangerous drug, and we should never in our deliberations about specific new drugs forget the overwhelming important of alcohol. I wouldn't want to set that dynamic up.

But one thing is for sure. As damaging as alcohol is, we have not seen—when you talk to the heroin addicts, the one thing they look at when they see the crack people—they say I have never seen anything like this. This is a whole other kind of dimension of addiction.

To see that kind of dysfunction and to be able to facilitate that—the amount of money that we generate, we still would never have enough treatment systems even from that sort of profit. We don't even have the technological ability yet as clinicians and scientists to treat the crack addict, and that doesn't even begin to get at the special problem of treating the pregnant crack addict.

Chairman BIDEN. I happen to agree with you completely, and I gave literally the same answer—the first part of the answer you gave was the same. If you already have a horrible situation, it seems to me one heck of an argument to suggest that because you can't do something about that, or won't do something about that, you should add another horrible situation on top of it.

But let me get to the next question. It is obvious that we have people who are able to be social consumers of alcohol; that is, they can consume alcohol. It does not control their lives; they control it and they use it in moderation, and it does not have any, or, if any, very, very few of the negative effects that we most fear as a society.

And the question then is raised and posited, are people capable of being casual consumers of cocaine. Is it possible for someone to be a casual consumer of cocaine? And then I will add to that; I realize crack is a different form of cocaine, and the list goes on. But let us start with cocaine, and I am not going to take you through them all in the interests of time.

But one of the arguments that is particularly cogent, if true, is that you are not capable of being a casual user of some of the drugs we talk about, and the brain requires increasing amounts of the same substance to give you the same impact and effect from taking it in the first instance. Would you just respond to that?

Dr. TUCKSON. What I have learned as a physician is that the range of individual variability in our planet is quite, in fact, varied, and so that there are individuals who, I am sure, can engage in what can be called, quote, "casual" abuse of these drugs. I don't think that is desirable. It is dangerous, but they don't exhibit the extraordinary ranges of pathology that occur with someone who is clearly addicted.

My experience, though, tells me, sir, that from all that I have observed that the overwhelming majority of people who find themselves involved with this particular drug find themselves increasingly addicted.

I think that the best evidence that talks about that and gives us the best trend data has been the report released by the Secretary of Health and Human Services within the last couple of months that describes that while there are some individuals who have decreased their casual abuse, that the people who are regular users

and frequent users have now intensified their use, and that they have become a very hardened core of addicted persons.

Chairman BIDEN. Isn't the express purpose, from your observation, the express goal sought to be achieved by those who ingest the drugs we have talked about at least a temporary inability to be in control of their mental and physical capacities, at least temporary?

Dr. TUCKSON. Yes, sir.

Chairman BIDEN. Whereas, with alcohol, that is not always the case, is it?

Dr. TUCKSON. No, sir.

Chairman BIDEN. Well, there is much more I would like to ask, but I am not going to trespass on the Senator from Illinois' time, so I will yield.

Senator SIMON. I just have one question for Dr. Tuckson. We are very shortly going to be having a lot of crack babies in our schools. What kind of advice do you give to school administrators?

Dr. TUCKSON. I went to D.C. General Hospital one day shortly before Chairman Kennedy came out. Again, I mention that of 60 babies in the newborn nursery, 45 of those babies were born to substance-abusing women. And we did development assessments on those babies and saw that range of pathology.

I went back to our Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Andrew Jenkins, and told him about that day. His reaction immediately was to form a task force, and I don't like the word "task force" in government; it always sounds like you just are going to talk about something and not do anything.

But in this case, he did organize all the people he needed to organize so that they can try to prepare for this onslaught of young people who are going to be very, very difficult to manage. The finances, though, that will be required are not there. I don't know of any urban municipality that is prepared economically to deal with these learning-disabled and anatomically-challenged young people. It is going to be very hard.

One other area that is going to be important if we are going to prepare well is in the area of case management. Our social support systems do not have the numbers of people available to try to manage the kinds of things that were talked about by Ms. Lewis, to try to move you through that system of care, to try to make sure that the child who is disabled, who is dysfunctional, has the remedial education, the physical support systems, the Social Security, all that range of things—the foster care that is required. That is going to be a very big challenge.

So my advice is plan early, because the onslaught of the first cohort of these young children who are so challenged will occur at the next school year, and I don't think we are prepared resource-based, labor-based, or intellectually or organizationally to handle it. And I think the one thing you can at least do is to get on top of the curve, realize what the dimensions of that problem are, and find some ways of reorganizing to handle it.

Senator SIMON. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman Kennedy.

Chairman KENNEDY. Senator, we included in the drug bill two amendments, one is to increase the training of the personnel and another adds additional funds for social services, particularly to deal with battered and abused children. These amendments are

part of legislation which we will be conferencing next week with the House. The House bill doesn't include these provisions.

Let me ask you, doctor, particularly with regard to pediatric addiction and AIDS babies, whether we are really doing enough research. In hepatitis B, for example, we have found ways to block someone who is infected from passing that infection on to the babies. It has taken a long time, but we have been able to do it. We haven't been able to do that with regard to HIV-positive.

I am not sure we are even doing the kinds of research with regard to the pediatric aspects of the whole AIDS issue. I don't know whether you have thought about it, or whether we probably ought to be doing something more about it or whether we ought to be getting NIH to do more about it.

Dr. TUCKSON. Certainly, NIH, I think, is focusing on it. I think that it would be very appropriate because it is an important question to ask them about it. In terms of the overall level of priorities of the research agenda around HIV disease, I am not sure where it fits, so that I cannot answer it.

But I would also ask you to ask one other question as you ask the HHS officials about these kinds of research issues, and that becomes to evaluate the intensity of the research for managing the pregnant crack addict, in addition to the HIV illness issues there, because there is a lot that we do not know.

And to be honest with you, we are not well armed, sir, to handle clinically the effective treatment of women who are abusing crack who are pregnant, and thereby cannot have access to some of the other drugs that we are now using. So I think both questions need to be asked.

Chairman KENNEDY. OK.

Chairman BIDEN. Chairman Kennedy, may I make just one comment? I won't ask the doctor this now, but it seems to me that—and I know both you gentlemen know much more about this than I do, but I was amazed to learn that there is so little knowledge of the impact of HIV on children, the impact it has upon their system different than it has on adults, our inability to know where that goes, where it takes us.

It is a little bit like— one of the things I did become slightly familiar with over the last couple of years is neurosurgery, and it surprised me—I mean this sincerely—it surprised me when I took my daughter up with a neck problem to find out it has only been about 6 years that they have had neurosurgical specialists for children because they found out the neurosurgical techniques they used to use on adults have radically different impacts upon children if they use the same techniques because they are still developing.

And it seems to me that on the whole AIDS question the Senator from Massachusetts raises that this is a blank spot. I may be wrong about it, but if it is, there is so much more that we should be focusing on.

Dr. TUCKSON. I know you have time problems, but I would also say to you that particularly the area you are talking about—again, back to the crack cocaine problem, we don't know enough also about what chronic depletion of dopamine, which is the neurotransmitter in the brain which allows our brains to work and

think—we don't know what that is doing to these children, so that there is a lot of work that needs to be done to get back to the question of what happens to the children in school. In utero, babies who are dopamine-depleted, what will that do to them in the long run? That is a very frightening question that we don't understand.

Chairman KENNEDY. I want to thank you all very much. Bob, we are delighted to have you here and hear your story, and Mr. Duran. We thank Ms. Lewis.

We have statements from Senator Grassley and Senator Kohl which will be inserted in the record.

[The prepared statements of Senator Grassley and Senator Kohl follow:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR GRASSLEY

Senator GRASSLEY. Mr. Chairman, thank you for holding this hearing on one of the more important battlefronts in the war against drugs—our children and the use of drugs.

The drug epidemic facing our society has caused a crisis of national character—a breakdown of the values this Nation was founded upon and for which it has stood for over 200 years.

This crisis has affected the traditional institutions that society has relied upon in the past to help shape the lives of individual members of society—our families, our schools, our churches, and our local community civic organizations.

In the war against illegal drug use, the real heroes are not those who use drugs and quit. The real heroes are those who never use drugs in the first place.

A young person's first line of defense against drugs is his or her own internal moral compass.

That moral compass is the product of values internalized from the family—the first, and still best, department of human services—and from religion.

Parents are a child's first role model upon which are based beliefs and behavior.

As a father, I know that raising children is never easy—whether it be in the inner city of a major American urban center or among the corn and bean fields of Butler County, IA.

But, no matter what the circumstances of one's birth, and no matter what one's station in life, adults must set standards of behavior by never using drugs.

The primary goal of prevention is to see to it that individual Americans—especially our school children—never start down the path that begins by experimenting with drug use, and ends with drug dependency.

Of course, for those individuals and school children who may have already begun to use drugs, our goal must be to get them to stop using drugs.

One way to influence whether an individual decides to use drugs is to make him or her not want to use them.

An alternative approach is to make an individual fear the consequences and penalties that society will impose for drug use by making it clear that the costs of drug use will outweigh whatever temporary benefits drugs may provide.

Young people and adults must be confronted with the same, consistent message: Drug use is wrong—drugs are harmful—and their use will bring certain consequences.

The National strategy acknowledges the many facets of our society that have roles in this fight:

Parents and siblings: Must make it clear that drug use is unacceptable and they must intervene at the first sign of drug use.

Schools have two roles: (1) Through prevention, by presenting accurate information about drugs; and (2) by developing and enforcing firm, consistent policies that discourage drug sales and usage.

Neighborhoods and communities: Must confront the use of drugs at every turn.

Businesses and employers: Must make it clear that drug use and employment are incompatible.

I look forward to learning from the testimony we will hear today.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR KOHL

Senator KOHL. Today, the Labor and Judiciary Committees are addressing an issue that will be central to our future: Namely, the serious risks and repercussions drug abuse poses for this Nation's children and families. I wish to commend the distinguished chairmen of both committees for holding this important hearing.

As I learned at a governmental affairs hearing I chaired on July 31, every 90 seconds a child is born somewhere in this country suffering from exposure to cocaine. When you add the number of infants exposed to other illegal drugs and alcohol, the numbers go right off the charts. The sad truth is that across the Nation, maternal substance abuse has reached epidemic proportions. In one Milwaukee hospital in my State of Wisconsin, 35 percent of all the infants born to date have tested positive for cocaine. And the skyrocketing infant death rate right here in our Nation's Capital—now 3 times the national average—has been directly tied to drug and alcohol abuse by women of childbearing age.

I know that Dr. Tuckson, one of the most effective Commissioners of Public Health this city has ever seen, will lay out the full parameters of this health and child welfare emergency.

Again, I would like to commend and thank the distinguished chairs of the Judiciary and Labor Committees for incorporating in the recently enacted anti-drug legislation several measures I sponsored to combat this crisis. Among them are a $50 million grant program to provide comprehensive, coordinated drug treatment services for pregnant women, a $40 million emergency child protective service grant program, a $20 million measure to facilitate community coalitions, a $3 million program to establish drug treatment for women in prison, and a National Academy of Sciences study to address the tremendous burden parental substance abuse has placed on the Child Welfare System.

Yet despite these amendments and many others authored by my esteemed colleagues from Delaware, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, our work is far from over. As several witnesses will point out this morning, the connection between drug running and youth gangs in cities and towns is reaching crisis proportions. In Milwaukee alone, two to three people are killed each week in gang war-

fare over drug turf. And across the country, adolescents are now responsible for a third of all violent crimes.

So, I look forward to learning from the expert witnesses here this morning what more we can do to assist those on the front lines—in our homes, schools, and communities—to avert these tragedies. These witnesses are all working overtime to prevent drug abuse from becoming a modern-day plague of American children and families.

Chairman KENNEDY. The committee stands in recess.

[Whereupon, at 12:25 p.m., the committee was adjourned.]

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